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Prayers

OFFERED BY THE CHAPLAIN

REV. BERNARD BRASKAMP, D. D.

AT THE OPENING OF THE DAILY SESSIONS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES DURING THE SECOND SESSION OF THE EIGHTY-FIRST CONGRESS AND THE FIRST AND SECOND SESSIONS OF THE EIGHTY-SECOND CONGRESS

1950–1952

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82d Congress, 2d Session - - - - - - - - - - House Document No. 539

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UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 1952

House Resolution No. 454

[Submitted by Mr. WALTER of Pennsylvania]

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
January 30, 1950.

Resolved, That Reverend Bernard Braskamp, of the District of Columbia, be, and he is hereby, chosen Chaplain of the House of Representatives.

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California

Dedicated

to the Memory of

MY FATHER AND MOTHER

in

Grateful Acknowledgment

of their

Sacrificial Love and Unfaltering Faith

House Resolution No. 458

[Submitted by Mr. TRIMBLE of Arkansas]

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
July 1, 1952.

Resolved, That there be printed as a House document the prayers offered by the Chaplain, the Reverend Bernard Braskamp, doctor of divinity, at the opening of the daily sessions of the House of Representatives of the United States from February 1, 1950, to the end of the Eighty-second Congress.

Introduction

Under a resolution of the House of Representatives, adopted during the closing days of the Eighty-second Congress, an authorization was granted for the printing of the prayers of its Chaplain, the Reverend Bernard Braskamp, as a document of the House.

Dr. Braskamp has been Chaplain of the House of Representatives since 1950, following forty years of service as pastor of churches in the Washington, D. C., area.

His prayers before the House have been fervent and inspiring, giving impulse to the sacredness of duty in the public service. Their devotional value is almost as great in the cold page of print as in the House itself. Dr. Braskamp enjoys in notable degree the respect and affection of the entire membership of the House, to whom he is a counsellor, friend, and brother.

In publishing this volume of his prayers, we feel we are rendering a public service and commend them to good people everywhere.

Respectfully,

Sam Rayburn

Speaker, House of Representatives.

Tribute

Remarks by Representative Charles B. Hoeven

OF IOWA

FEBRUARY 1, 1950

Mr. Speaker, I am highly pleased over the appointment of Rev. Bernard Braskamp, D. D., as Chaplain of the House of Representatives, to succeed retiring Rev. James Shera Montgomery, D. D. My home town of Alton, Iowa, is greatly honored to have one of its native sons selected for this distinguished position, for this little town of Alton, where I reside, is the place where Dr. Braskamp was born and grew to manhood.

Another lifelong friend of Dr. Braskamp and one who takes particular pleasure in his election as Chaplain is Claude S. Scheckel, one of the Official Reporters of Debates in the House of Representatives. Dr. Braskamp, Mr. Scheckel, and I have known each other since childhood, all three being from Alton. It is a remarkable coincidence that the three of us meet again here in the great forum of the House of Representatives.

Dr. Braskamp, who has spent his entire ministry of 39 years in Washington, is the dean among the 42 pastors of the Washington City Presbytery in length of service. It is stated that among the several hundred clergy in Washington of the Protestant, Catholic, and Hebrew faiths there is only one in the active pastorate who exceeds him in the record of length of service. In 1951, when he completes his 40 years in his Washington pastorate, he plans to write a book entitled "Forty Years a Minister in the Nation's Capital."

The Gurley Memorial Presbyterian Church, which was his first church after being associated with Dr. Charles Wood in the Church of the Covenant, is in fact still his one and only church. It was named in memory of Dr. Phineas D. Gurley, Chaplain of the United States Senate and pastor of the historic New York Avenue Presbyterian Church where President Abraham Lincoln worshipped. Dr. Braskamp was the leader when the Gurley congregation built a new house of worship, and 7 years later he became the leader in merging the Gurley and Gunton-Temple Congregations and in the erection of their present church at Sixteenth and Newton Streets.

During the past 10 years he has officiated more than 175 times as Acting Chaplain in the House, substituting for Dr. Montgomery. During these

past 10 years he has also been the Acting Chaplain in the Senate on more than 75 occasions and during the entire 1948 Special Session of the Congress and the vacation periods of Chaplain Dr. Frederick Brown Harris and the late Chaplain, Dr. Peter Marshall.

Dr. Braskamp pursued his education and received degrees from the following schools: Public school in Alton, Iowa; graduated from the Northwestern Classical Academy at Orange City, Iowa, in 1903; first 2 years of college study at Grinnell, Iowa; graduated from the University of Michigan with the degree of bachelor of arts in 1908; first year of theological training in Hartford, Conn.; last 2 years of theological training in Princeton Seminary, graduating in 1911; received the degree of master of arts from Princeton University in 1911, having taken his studies in the department of philosophy. In June 1930 Hanover College of Hanover, Ind., gave him the honorary degree of doctor of divinity.

In June 1947 he was made a Knight of the Order of Orange Nassau, the decoration being bestowed on him by Queen Wilhelmina at a ceremony conducted by Ambassador Loudon in the Netherlands Embassy.

In 1929 he was elected to the office of moderator of the Washington City Presbytery which is composed of 42 churches and in 1940 he was made the moderator of the Synod of Baltimore which is composed of the 153 Presbyterian Churches of Washington City, Baltimore, and New Castle.

Dr. Braskamp has for 15 years been the president of the Princeton Theological Seminary Alumni Association of Washington and is a member of the Washington Princeton University Club, and the University of Michigan.

In September 1925 he married Anna C. Bull, of Milford, Pa. They have two children, a daughter, Anne Bernice, age 22, who graduated from Wilson College, Chambersburg, Pa., with a bachelor of arts degree in June 1949, and entered the law department of George Washington University in September 1949. Bernard, Jr., age 18, graduated from Calvin Coolidge High School in June 1949 and is preparing to enter West Point Military Academy in 1950.

Dr. Braskamp was born of humble, God-fearing Dutch parents in Alton, Iowa, a small town of 1,000 inhabitants in the northwestern part of the State where the temperature one winter, during his boyhood days, registered 42° below zero although on the 18th day of February 1887, when he was born, it was only 15 below.

His father and mother were childhood friends and schoolmates in Holland, both having been born in Appeldorn, where the Queen has her summer home. His mother was 15 years of age when her parents and their nine children emigrated to America. His father, who was the same age, was a young tinsmith in Appeldorn and when he reached the age of 21 and had earned enough money at his trade to pay for his passage, he also went west to America, the "land of opportunity," where his boyhood sweetheart was living. A few years after his arrival they were married, the bride having

been employed as a seamstress and the groom having found work as a tinsmith and clerk in the small hardware store in Alton.

Dr. Braskamp speaks the Dutch language fluently and keeps his command of that language by reading his mother's Bible which she brought with her from Holland. He often calls to mind those pioneer days in the prairies of Iowa when life was a tremendous struggle and there were many hardships.

The house in which he was born was a small frame building with no heat in any room except in the kitchen where there was a cook stove in which corn cobs, purchased from farmers at 75 cents per wagonload, were the only fuel material. He and the other four children in the family slept on straw beds in rooms without heat. The mother, after kneeling with them in prayer, would tuck them in, the last in bed having the great thrill of blowing out the lamp which she carried.

Dr. Braskamp's parents made every possible sacrifice to give their five children a college education. After completing his grammar-school studies in Alton, he went to the Northwestern Classical Academy at Orange City, Iowa, which was 4 miles to the northwest. He usually walked this distance, leaving home at 6:45 in the morning, the starting time being determined by the weather. It was pretty tough going to face the cold northwest wind in the winter months. Like every normal boy he often wished that he could hear the news that the academy had burned to the ground and that there would not be any school.

On the evening of the academy commencement exercises the principal, in his introductory remarks, announced that the 16-year-old Braskamp boy in knee-length pants who was the next on the program to give an oration, had never during his 3 years been late for the 8 o'clock chapel services. Dr. Braskamp gives his mother all the credit for that record for she got up every morning at 5:30 to start the cook-stove fire and to melt enough water in the ice-covered basin so that he could wash his face and hands before sitting down to his breakfast which usually consisted of a large dish of oatmeal, toast, and a cup of hot chocolate. His mother would always put a few home-made cookies or doughnuts in his overcoat pocket which would tide him over until he returned from school at about 1:30 in the afternoon after walking the 4 miles.

After graduating from the academy he went to Grinnell College, Iowa, entering at the age of 16. In his freshman and sophomore years he was the short-stop on the varsity baseball team and the pitcher on his class team. There is one intercollege game whose memory haunts him. Grinnell was playing the University of Iowa and the game was a tie at the beginning of the ninth inning with Iowa University at bat. There was an Iowa runner on third base and two outs. The batter on the third pitch drove a sizzling grounder to the shortstop which he handled cleanly just as he had done

with the seven other grounders but something happened and he threw the ball about 20 feet over the first baseman's head and into the grandstand. The game was over for Grinnell failed to score during the last half of the ninth inning. A heart-broken player went home in tears.

Dr. Braskamp completed his first 2 years at Grinnell College in a creditable manner but his parents were financially unable to assist him in continuing his studies. There was very little opportunity for a student to work his way through school at Grinnell. He consequently found it necessary to stay home and spent the year as a clerk in his father's hardware store. It was his job to open the store every morning at 7 o'clock, start the fire in the stove, sweep the floor, and dust the counter. After those chores he was ready to do a rushing business. The hardware business, however, was not a lucrative one, especially during the cold winter months. Frequently, when his father and he were getting ready to close the store at 9 o'clock in the evening, they would find, upon counting the money in the till, that they had sold less than $2 worth of merchandise.

Dr. Braskamp's parents, always ready to make every sacrifice for their children's education, sold their last small tract of farm land, which they had purchased for $8 an acre, in order that he might be privileged to pursue his education. He decided to go to the University of Michigan for those last 2 years. Realizing what tremendous sacrifices his parents were making, he immediately upon arriving at Ann Arbor, Mich., started out in search of work which would help pay expenses. He found work waiting on tables and cutting the lawn of one of the professors. In the wintertime he took care of the professor's furnace. He did not have time, however, for the practice and training that was required of a student who was trying out for the varsity baseball team and therefore gave up his boyhood dream of being a major-league player.

One week in the spring he made big money. He was given charge of the sale of the librettos for the May festival. He made $32 that week but his duties, as sales manager, deprived him of the inspiration and pleasure of hearing Schumann-Heink who was on the program that year. It was a question of business before pleasure.

In the summertime, during his vacations, he sold maps and the Century Book of Facts. He also made an extra few dollars at the Fourth of July celebration in his home town and the nearby towns for he was quite a sprinter, usually winning first or second place in the 100-yard dash. The men who bet on him would always give him at least 50 cents or a dollar whenever he was the first to hit the tape.

Having been a shortstop on a college baseball team he also frequently made a few dollars by playing for neighboring towns.

At the beginning of his senior year at the University of Michigan he decided to enter the law department after receiving his bachelor of arts

degree but a few months before graduation he felt the urge to enter the ministry. Then in September he went to Hartford Theological Seminary, Hartford, Conn., where he was given a scholarship.

While a first-year student in the Hartford Seminary he had the great privilege of hearing an address by Woodrow Wilson, president of Princeton University. He was so inspired by that message that he decided to go to Princeton for the remaining 2 years of seminary training where he could have an opportunity to hear Woodrow Wilson more frequently. It became his great ambition to obtain a master of arts degree from Princeton University. Consequently the following year he went from Hartford to Princeton. In addition to taking the regular studies in the theological seminary he went over to the university to enroll in the graduate department. At the end of the 2 years he not only graduated from the theological seminary but received the degree of master of arts in philosophy from Princeton University.

He was licensed and ordained to the ministry by the presbytery of Brooklyn, N. Y., in May 1911. In September 1911, he was invited to Washington to become the assistant pastor of the Church of the Covenant, now called the National Presbyterian Church, where Dr. Charles Wood was then the revered pastor.

Prayers

Offered by the Chaplain at the Opening of the Daily Sessions of the House of Representatives of the United States During the Second Session of the Eighty-first Congress and the First and Second Sessions of the Eighty-second Congress (1950–1952)

EIGHTY-FIRST CONGRESS

Second Session

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1950

O Thou who hast revealed Thyself as a prayer-hearing and prayer-answering God, we humbly beseech Thee to teach us how to pray.

Grant that daily we may enter into an intimate communion with the God of all grace whose wisdom never errs and whose strength never fails.

Make us sensitive and responsive to the leading of Thy spirit in our high vocation of finding the way of blessedness and peace for our own beloved country and all mankind.

Inspire us with such integrity of character and conduct that we may stand before Thee and our fellow men, unafraid and unashamed.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

(The Reverend Bernard Braskamp, D. D., Chaplain-elect, presented himself at the bar of the House and took the oath of office.)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1950

Most merciful and gracious God, grant that this moment of prayer may be one of insight and of inspiration.

We pray that we may incarnate the spirit of our blessed Lord and bear testimony to the splendor of His ideals and principles at we strive to build a nobler civilization.

We humbly confess that in this high adventure we so frequently put our confidence solely in human wisdom and human ingenuity and fail to lay hold of those spiritual resources which Thou hast placed at our disposal.

May it be the passionate longing of our hearts to lead groping and struggling humanity out of darkness and confusion into the glorious light and liberty of the children of God.

To Thy name we ascribe all the praise. Amen.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1950

INFINITE AND ETERNAL GOD, THOU ART THE SUPREME INTELLIGENCE, far beyond the comprehension of our finite minds but always within reach of simple and childlike faith.

We pray that our hearts may be enlarged with a greater faith in the reality of moral and spiritual forces and in the power of righteousness and the strength of justice.

May this faith never be eclipsed by doubt or extinguished by despair as we strive to solve our difficult national and international problems.

Grant that at the close of each day we may receive the benediction which Thou dost bestow upon the faithful who do justly love mercy and walk humbly with the Lord.

In Christ's name we bring our petition. Amen.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1950

O THOU WHO WERT THE GOD OF OUR FATHERS, we rejoice that Thou art also the God of their succeeding generations.

Fill us with an eager desire to have our beloved country enjoy the blessings of democracy in an ever-increasing measure.

May we share these blessings with all the needy members of the human family and in a spirit that is indicative of a real personal interest in their welfare and happiness.

Grant that we may build a finer social order and may the nations of the earth never again seek to settle their difficult international problems by submitting them to the dreadful arbitrament of war.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1950

ALMIGHTY GOD, we thank Thee for days in the calendar of our national history when we are privileged to call to mind the life and character of those who sought to serve their generation according to Thy holy will.

Today we are paying tribute to the memory of a great American patriot who stood like a giant among his contemporaries and whose record of heroic service has made an indelible impression upon succeeding generations.

Grant that his supreme passion for the preservation of the Union may also inspire us with longings to promote and preserve the union of God-fearing men and nations in their search for amity and peace.

We are confident that Thou art not calling upon us to seek and accept peace at any price.

We believe, however, that our beloved country has been commissioned to strive for righteousness and justice, whatever the cost may be, and to bring to fulfillment and fruition those glorious aspirations.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1950

O THOU WHO ART THE LORD GOD OMNIPOTENT, grant that we may meet the tasks and responsibilities of this new day with a resolute faith in the guiding and sustaining presence of Thy spirit.

We pray that Thou wilt create within our minds and hearts those nobler thoughts and finer feelings which are the progenitors of achievement in the building of a better world.

Show us how we may release the hidden splendor of humanity and bring to fulfillment those capacities for beauty and strength of character which Thou hast planted within the soul of man.

To Thy name we ascribe the glory. Amen.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1950

ALMIGHTY AND ETERNAL GOD, we beseech Thee that in this Brotherhood Week our moments of prayer may be radiant with clear visions of high and helpful things that we are privileged to do together for the welfare of humanity.

We believe in no man's infallability of wisdom and judgment, and may we therefore accept the Master's overtures of counsel in the noble adventure of building a social order which is truly Christian.

Grant that, as brothers of the Son of Man, our minds and hearts may be impervious to those attitudes and feelings which are alien to the spirit of our blessed Lord.

Hear us in His name. Amen.

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1950

O THOU GOD OF ALL GOODNESS, we are again uniting our souls in the fellowship of prayer, seeking together those needed blessings which none can ever find or enjoy alone.

We pray that daily our lives may be brought under the spell and sway of the Master's spirit in order that they may be transformed into His own glorious likeness.

In our problems and tasks may we have the interpreting and guiding light of His Spirit.

May it be the supreme desire of our hearts to do Thy will, for in the doing of Thy will is our peace.

To Thy name we ascribe the praise. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1950

ALMIGHTY GOD, we thank Thee for this day when we unite to commemorate the life of George Washington, whom we reverently and affectionately call the Father of his Country.

Our hearts expand with pride as we think of his spirit of adventure, his fortitude in times of hardship, and his fidelity to the principles of righteousness and justice which inspired him to champion the cause of the oppressed colonists.

We rejoice in his testimony to a lofty idealism when he urged his fellow men to labor to keep alive within their breast that little spark of celestial fire called conscience.

We thank Thee above all for his humble spirit and devout faith which sent him down upon his knees in prayer in order that he might know how to march in step with the eternal will and wisdom of God.

Grant that the memory of his life may strengthen the soul of our Republic and inspire us to labor in faith, in faithfulness, and in the fear of the Lord for the blessedness of all mankind.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1950

O THOU ETERNAL GOD, grant us this day a vital and vivid experience of Thy presence and power as we address ourselves to responsibilities which are far beyond our own wisdom and strength.

May all our desires and decisions be a clear and commanding witness that we are striving to manifest the splendor and preserve the continuity of the Master's ideals and principles.

Give us the courage to believe that His kingdom of righteousness and peace, which we are called upon to seek and establish, is emerging and that the day is dawning when our quest will be a conquest and our hope a blessed reality.

Hear us in His name. Amen.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1950

ALMIGHTY GOD, may this moment of prayer inspire us with a new awareness of our spiritual resources.

May we be impelled by a noble purpose in every plan that we present for the solution of our many problems.

We humbly confess that there are frequently such discrepancies between our promises and our performances, between our profession and our practice, between our creed and our conduct.

We pray that these may not be at variance with one another, but always in close and cordial agreement.

Grant that daily we may validate and authenticate the reality and glory of democracy by our loyalty to its ideals and principles.

In Christ's name we bring our petitions. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 1950

O THOU WHO ART OF ALL FRIENDS the nearest and of all teachers the wisest, grant that during this day we may yield ourselves gladly and unreservedly to the guidance of Thy Spirit.

May we be numbered among those who, in this troubled time, are orienting their lives to the mind and heart of our blessed Lord and learning the secret of His incredible courage and unconquerable hope.

Show us how we may lift and lessen the burdens and sorrows and fears which weigh so heavily on many members of the human family.

Humbly we offer our prayer in Christ's name. Amen.

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 1950

ETERNAL AND EVER BLESSED GOD, whose treasury of goodness is inexhaustible, we thank Thee for the gift of this new day with its opportunities to serve Thee and our fellow men.

May we sense the sanctity of our high vocation and never be recreant in the performance of any duty.

Emancipate us from those moods of discouragement and defeatism which storm the citadel of our souls when we face difficult problems.

Grant that we may be the messengers and mediators of helpfulness in hastening that glorious time when the forces of evil, which are impeding the progress of the kingdom of brotherhood and good will, shall be supplanted by the kind and gentle spirit of the Prince of Peace.

To Thy name we give the praise. Amen.

FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 1950

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS GOD, humbly and confidently we are again turning to Thee in the sacred attitude of prayer, beseeching Thee to inspire us with a reassuring sense of Thy presence, Thy peace, and Thy power.

Grant that with increasing tenacity of faith we may lay hold upon the glorious promise that they who wait upon the Lord shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

May we count it our highest calling to incarnate and emulate the life of our Lord and our highest wisdom to commit our baffled minds and burdened hearts to the discipline and leading of His spirit.

In His name we pray. Amen.

SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 1950

INFINITE AND ETERNAL GOD, in whom we find the meaning and majesty of life, we are again approaching Thy throne compelled by many needs which Thou alone canst supply.

We pray that we may be men of vision and of valor, richly endowed with clarity of mind and courage of heart to meet and match the challenge of difficult problems, great responsibilities, and glorious opportunities.

May we bear testimony to men and nations everywhere that, as citizens of this Republic, we are mindful of one another's welfare and that in our common remembrance we are eager to carry one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ.

May Thy name be glorified. Amen.

MONDAY, MARCH 6, 1950

O THOU WHO HAST PLACED AT OUR DISPOSAL the inexhaustible resources of Thy grace, guide us by Thy spirit in finding practical and promising ways of mediating to struggling humanity the Master's blessings of the more abundant life.

Deliver us from every selfish propensity and inspire us to labor faithfully for the welfare and happiness of all mankind.

Fortify us against those specters of fear which haunt us in our times of perplexity.

May our faith in the glorious triumph of the Christ and His kingdom never be eclipsed by doubt or cynical tempers of mind.

With a humble spirit and a contrite heart we present our petitions. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 1950

OUR GRACIOUS BENEFACTOR, whose heart responds to every human need, we rejoice that day by day we are the beneficiaries of Thy bountiful providence.

Hitherto Thou hast blessed us and we have found our confidence in the glorious promise that where Thou dost guide Thou wilt also provide.

Show us how we may bring to fulfillment and fruition those noble impulses which Thou hast planted within our souls.

Inspire us with the spirit of the Master who went about doing good, and daily may we find our joy in Him.

In His name we pray. Amen.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 1950

O THOU WHO ART THE FATHER OF ALL MANKIND, with gladness and gratitude we invoke Thy blessing, conscious of our needs and constrained by Thy grace.

Always and everywhere we need Thee; in our weakness to encourage and sustain us; in our strength to discipline and direct us.

Inspire us with a faith that daily defies despair, a hope that makes the future more radiant, and a love that conquers everything.

Grant that at the close of each day we may be crowned with the diadem of Thy praise, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant; enter thou into the peace and joy of thy Lord."

In Christ's name. Amen.

MONDAY, MARCH 13, 1950

O THOU SUPREME RULER OF THE UNIVERSE, endow us during this day with that deeper insight which discerns and knows how to interpret Thy sovereign and eternal will.

Give us a vision of that better day when, in all human relationships. there will be a finer revelation of the spirit of the Prince of Peace.

We humbly confess that our finite minds and hearts are so frequently blinded and enslaved by a sense of futility and frustration.

Grant that we may have the courage to believe that Thy kingdom is coming and may Thy will be done on earth as it is done in heaven.

May Thy name be glorified. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 1950

GOD OF ALL GOODNESS, we beseech Thee to be present and favorable unto these Thy servants, granting unto them grace and wisdom to perform the duties of their high calling with a pure and steadfast devotion.

May our hearts expand with pride that our beloved country, conceived in sacrifice and dedicated to Thy glory, is seeking to bring blessedness to all mankind.

Show us how we may mobilize the moral and spiritual resources and implement them in building a social order whose spirit is that of brotherhood and good will.

In the name of the Christ, our Saviour. Amen.

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 1950

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, whose wisdom we cannot comprehend and whose divine love transcends all human love, may we daily enter into that fellowship of believers who are the seekers and finders of God.

Illumine our minds and hearts by Thy Spirit and deliver us from everything that darkens and mars the image of God in which we have been created.

Hasten the coming of that blessed day when men everywhere shall walk in the glorious liberty of the sons of God, and find their joy and peace in the Christ, our Saviour. Amen.

MONDAY, MARCH 20, 1950

ETERNAL GOD, OUR GRACIOUS BENEFACTOR, as we go forth to meet the duties and responsibilities of this new week may we earnestly pray and labor for peace and good will among men.

Grant that the nations of the earth may be eager to win and prove worthy of one another's confidence and be united in the will and the effort to strengthen the bonds of friendship.

Show us how we may bring in that day of blessedness when man shall be too strong to be chained and too large to be imprisoned by anything which defiles and degrades his soul and makes him break faith with his nobler and better self.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 1950

ALMIGHTY GOD, WHO HAST MADE US FOR THYSELF, grant that in our moments of prayer we may be lifted by the mighty tide of Thy grace into the glorious experience of the larger and more abundant life.

May the spirit of our blessed Lord be the controlling influence and conscience of our own spirits, a presence to inspire, a light to guide, a loveliness to transfigure and touch all life to nobler and finer issues.

Send us into life's crowded and confused ways with clear minds and courageous hearts. Show us how we may lead groping and struggling humanity out of darkness and despair into the wonder and greatness of Thy love and peace.

Humbly we pray in Christ's name. Amen.

FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 1950

BLESSED GOD, WHO HAST CREATED US with a capacity to achieve and enjoy the true, the beautiful, and the good, we pray that Thou wilt show us how to build the social order on the foundation of truth and righteousness.

May our leaders and chosen representatives, in their deep concern for peace and good will among men, be blessed with wisdom to perceive what is needed for the realization of these lofty goals.

We rejoice that they are laboring conscientiously to enrich and strengthen our national life and that daily they are striving for the happiness and welfare of all mankind.

We beseech Thee that in the minds and hearts of our citizens and the whole body of people everywhere there may be a rising tide of loyal cooperation and the spirit of hopefulness and patience and brotherhood.

To Thy name we ascribe the praise. Amen.

MONDAY, MARCH 27, 1950

ALMIGHTY AND ETERNAL GOD, we thank Thee for the privilege and joy of entering upon a new day for through Thy mercy we are spared and by Thy power we are sustained.

Grant that Thy spirit may interpret for us life's sacred meaning and reveal its glorious opportunities. May we sense the sanctity of even the most commonplace task and perform every duty faithfully.

Show us how we may minister to the needs of all mankind. Where there is darkness may we be the messengers of light; where hearts are bruised and broken, may we bring the healing consolation of Thy grace; where there is fear may we be the ambassadors of courage and hope; where there is despair may we be the heralds of a better day.

In Christ's name we bring our petition. Amen.

TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 1950

O THOU WHO ARE THE GUIDING SPIRIT in the life of men and of nations, we rejoice that we have the testimony of a countless number of yesterdays, that where Thou dost lead Thou wilt also provide.

Grant that with courage and confidence we may choose the paths which Thou hast marked out for us, for he who followeth Thee shall not walk in darkness but shall have the light of life.

We pray that all who hold positions of leadership in the affairs of government may be the honored servants of the Lord in directing our Nation in the ways of righteousness and peace.

Hear us in the name of the Christ who proclaimed Himself to be the way, the truth, and the life. Amen.

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 1950

LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, we humbly pray that we may be more sensitive and responsive to the appeals of the higher life and the persuasions of Thy spirit.

May we daily bear witness to our kinship with the Master who went about doing good and who inspired His followers to give their strength to the weak, their sympathy to the sorrowing, their substance to the poor, and their heart to God.

Help us to appropriate by faith the overtures of His friendship and accept the challenge to make a more daring trial of His moral and spiritual principles as we seek to build a nobler civilization.

May Thy name be glorified. Amen.

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1950

GOD OF ALL MAJESTY AND MERCY before whom the angles bow and the archangels veil their faces, Thou art high and holy, and yet hast Thou respect unto the lowly and the humble. Thou art great in Thy goodness and good in Thy greatness. We know that to turn away from Thee is to fail, but that to abide in Thee is to stand fast forever.

Grant that in the assurance of Thy greatness and Thy goodness we may find our joy and peace. Make us equal to every task, and may it be the goal of all our aspirations to fashion our life into the likeness of our blessed Lord and to serve our generation in accordance with Thy holy will.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

MONDAY, APRIL 3, 1950

Almighty God, we have entered upon Holy Week, commemorating days whose sacred significance our finite minds cannot comprehend. May we contemplate their meaning with a humble spirit and a contrite heart.

We thank Thee for the King, who on Palm Sunday proclaimed His sovereignty over the spirit of man and unto whom we must give our allegiance.

Fill us with gratitude for the great Prophet who, during the succeeding days, revealed the eternal truth of God. Inspire us with such a love of Thy truth that we shall come to know the truth of Thy love.

We praise Thee for the High Priest who on Good Friday laid upon the altar the acceptable sacrifice of His own life. Help us to understand that "we never choose the better part until we set the cross up in the heart."

Grant that on Easter Sunday we may share the glorious resurrection of our King, our Prophet, our High Priest, rising with Him in newness of life to build that blessed highway where men and nations shall walk together in His spirit.

To Thy name we give all the glory. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 1950

God of all grace, whose amazing love we cannot fathom, we rejoice that when there was no eye to pity and no arm to save, then, in the fullness of time, Thou didst send the Christ to be the Saviour of the world.

Grant that in this week of solemn and sacred memory we may be filled with penitence and humility as we turn to the cross to meditate upon the sufferings and sacrifice of the great captain of our salvation.

May Holy Week be for all of us not only a time of commemoration but of consecration. May we understand more clearly that the kingdom of righteousness for which we are hoping and praying can never be established except through the power of sacrificial love.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1950

Blessed God, whose heart always responds to those who truly seek to worship and serve Thee, may this moment of prayer be one of insight and of inspiration.

We pray that Thy servants may be blessed with a clear vision of the high and helpful things they may do together as they again assemble to take counsel with one another.

Thou knowest how deeply concerned they are about the welfare of our own beloved country and all mankind. Inspire them with those noble impulses and desires which are the progenitors of achievement in building a better world.

May we feel the compelling constraint to labor more earnestly as we look forward to the coming of that glorious day of peace which Thou dost will and sanction.

Hear us, in Christ's name. Amen.

FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 1950

INFINITE AND ETERNAL GOD, WHO ART FOUND BY ALL who sincerely seek Thee and art seen by all whose hearts are pure, may we begin, continue, and end each day with the glad assurance of Thy guiding and sustaining presence.

Grant that the Members of this legislative body may daily come to the high vocation of public service, with which Thou hast entrusted them, richly endowed with clear judgment and wise decision.

May the Master's principles of righteousness and justice be the foundation on which we are striving to build a nobler civilization.

Show us how we may lift humanity out of the lowlands of fear and bondage into the lofty heights of faith and freedom through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

MONDAY, APRIL 24, 1950

ALMIGHTY GOD, we are again assembling in this Chamber as colleagues and coworkers engaged in a high and holy mission and conscious of facing tremendous tasks and responsibilities.

Humbly we are invoking Thy blessing, one in our need and longing, beseeching Thee that we may have the guiding and interpreting light of Thy spirit.

Grant that we may be calm and courageous as we find ourselves challenged by many difficult national and international problems.

May we seek to build a social order in which righteousness reigns supremely and love is the law of life.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 1950

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS GOD, may this moment of fellowship with Thee in prayer be for us a cleansing of heart and a surrender of our wills to a mind infinitely wiser than our own.

Grant that in times of darkness and discouragement, when we are challenged by problems whose solution is far beyond human wisdom, Thy truth may be our light and Thy presence our joy and strength.

May we daily walk without fear in the way of Thy wise and holy commandments. Inspire us to labor in faith and in faithfulness for the fulfillment of all high ideals, pure motives, and heroic endeavors after peace and righteousness.

In the name of the Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 1950

ETERNAL GOD, OUR FATHER, we are again feverently seeking Thee in the fellowship of prayer, beseeching Thee that we may find Thee continually a presence to purify and strengthen, a light to guide and encourage, and a loveliness to transform and transfigure our lives.

May our minds and hearts be more receptive and responsive to the Master's ways of living and may we find our joy in striving to emulate His character and walking in His paths of justice and righteousness, of peace and good will, of kindness and love.

Grant that the day may be hastened when all men everywhere shall give themselves in a glad and willing obedience to the mind of Christ. In His name we pray. Amen.

FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 1950

BLESSED LORD, grant that the words of our mouth and the meditations of our heart may always be acceptable in Thy sight.

May there be nothing in this day's work of which we shall be ashamed when the sun has set or at the eventide of life when Thou dost call us to Thyself.

Fill our souls with lofty aspirations, and may each day find us eager and ready to do Thy will, for in the doing of Thy will is our peace.

May we have the courage to believe that none of the Christlike hopes and longings which Thou hast planted within us are too high and too difficult to be fulfilled by Thy wisdom and power.

In Christ's name we bring our needs and desires. Amen.

MONDAY, MAY 1, 1950

O THOU WHOSE BLESSINGS FAR OUTNUMBER OUR MANY NEEDS, we rejoice that Thou art willing and able to do for us exceeding abundantly above all we can ask or think.

Grant that in this moment of prayer there may come to us a new nativity of the cardinal virtues of faith, hope, and love.

Inspire us with a more daring venture of faith as we labor together for the peace of the world.

Illumine our minds with a radiant hope as we walk reverently and humbly in the ways of our blessed Lord who alone is our light in times of darkness and despair.

Enlarge our hearts with a love that casts out fear, a love that seeketh not her own, a love that is ready to make any sacrifice for the eternal glory of God and the good of humanity.

To Thy name we ascribe the praise. Amen.

TUESDAY, MAY 2, 1950

ALMIGHTY GOD, we are coming unto Thee with many needs and desires. May this be a day of unclouded vision and joyous service.

Inspire us with a clearer understanding and a more wonderful appreciation of the greatness and glory of democracy. May we earnestly proclaim its ideals and principles. May we feel its compelling constraints and believe in the certainty of its ultimate triumph.

Grant that we may be one in spirit with all who are striving courageously and faithfully for the higher good of humanity.

May that day soon dawn when men and nations everywhere shall be members of the kingdom of peace and brotherhood.

Humbly we offer our prayer in Christ's name. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 1950

ETERNAL GOD, OUR FATHER, in and by whom we live and move and have our being, there is no one unto whom we may draw nigh with such confidence.

There is no one who understands our needs so perfectly; no one unto whom we may unburden our hearts so completely; no one of whom we may ask so much; no one so willing to grant our requests and give us strength and victory in every struggle for truth and righteousness.

Help us to believe and know and feel that Thou art seeking to be our counselor and guide in all that we think and say and do. We humbly confess that we are often so self-willed and so unlike Thee in thought and word and deed.

We pray that our plans and purposes during this day may be a clear and glorious testimony that we are striving to mediate to all mankind the blessings of freedom and peace.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

FRIDAY, MAY 5, 1950

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS GOD, we are coming unto Thee with needy and aspiring hearts. We penitently confess that our human nature is feeble and fickle.

At times our hearts are filled with love and good will, and then again with hatred and bitterness; at times we are magnanimous and considerate, and then again so selfish and complacent; at times we are kind and merciful, and then again so harsh and cruel.

Grant that the good within us may be victorious. May the soul of men and nations be regenerated by the Holy Spirit. Show us how we may build a nobler civilization, one that is aglow with faith in God and love for humanity.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 1950

O THOU WHO ART THE GREAT SOURCE AND INSPIRATION of the true, the beautiful, and the good, we pray that Thou wilt create within us and in the heart of all mankind a more Christlike spirit.

Thou hast endowed us with wonderful moral and spiritual capacities. May they be brought to fulfillment and fruition.

Help us realize that when, as individuals or a nation, we transgress Thy righteous laws and commandments we do not break them, for they cannot be broken, but we break ourselves, for "he that sinneth wrongeth his own soul."

Inspire us with a steadfast loyalty to the ideals and principles which Thou hast ordained for the peace and prosperity of the world.

Wilt Thou bless our beloved Speaker and the members of his bereaved family with the consolations of Thy grace.

We are sending them our thoughts of love and sympathy through the God of all consolation. In Christ's name. Amen.

MONDAY, MAY 8, 1950

ALMIGHTY GOD, may we daily be inspired with fidelity to our high calling and trust as leaders in the affairs of government by being loyal to that which is noble and true.

Grant that we may understand that our first loyalty must be to Thee and that this is the basis and inspiration of all the other loyalties of our mortal life.

We confess with sorrow and shame that we are continually violating and breaking faith with the sanctity of this supreme loyalty.

We have failed to see that this is the reason why our social order is weak and in peril and why we are making so little progress in achieving a finer and nobler civilization.

Search and cleanse our minds and hearts and fill them with a greater and more steadfast loyalty to Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

TUESDAY, MAY 9, 1950

ETERNAL GOD, OUR FATHER, we are calling upon Thy great and holy name, compelled by needs which Thou alone canst supply and constrained by a love which is always seeking us and will never let us go.

May we now give ourselves unto Thee in wholehearted surrender and service, which are the only returns we can make for Thy goodness and loving kindness.

Grant that daily we may draw nearer unto Thee for then we shall not be far from one another; then in that closer fellowship we shall find our hearts stirred with longings to serve our generation according to Thy holy will.

Help us to understand that in the communion and companionship of Thy nearer presence we shall find the secret of carrying on courageously and hopefully and possess that joy and peace which the world can neither give nor take away.

To Thy name through Christ we ascribe the praise. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 1950

GOD OF ALL GRACE AND GOODNESS, we pray that during this day our souls may be the sanctuary of Thy presence, Thy peace, and Thy power.

We are seeking Thee in this moment of prayer because Thou hast first sought us. In our great need we have no one else to go to. Inspire us now with a more radiant faith in Thy wisdom and power to meet all our needs.

May our hearts be aglow with the enthusiasm and inspiration of high ideals and a vision of the splendor and glory of the kingdom of brotherhood and good will among men.

Grant that these ideals and this vision may be gloriously fulfilled and to Thy name we shall ascribe all the praise. Through Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

THURSDAY, MAY 11, 1950

Almighty God, may this be a day when we shall be blessed with a clear and commanding vision of the glorious enterprise of building Thy kingdom of righteousness and peace upon this earth.

Fill us with a passion to heal our heartbroken and fear-ridden world of the malady of hatred and war. Show us how we may lead all mankind into a nobler and more humane social order.

May we not be discouraged and allow our faith to become eclipsed by doubt and despair. Grant that with increasing tenacity of purpose we may lay hold of the glad assurance that the spirit of the Prince of Peace shall prevail everywhere.

In His name we pray. Amen.

MONDAY, MAY 15, 1950

Eternal God, our Father, whose blessings and mercies are far beyond our worthiness and our comprehension, we bow before Thee in adoration, in humility, and in supplication.

Give us words with which to praise Thee; give us contrite hearts for our sins against Thee; give us aspiration and strength to serve Thee faithfully.

Take our hands in Thine and lead our faltering steps in the ways of righteousness and peace; take our minds and inspire them with a more spiritual interpretation of life and a finer conception of the brotherhood of man.

Bless us daily with a vivid sense of Thy nearness as we face difficult problems. May the fears and doubts which so often assail our souls be forever dispelled and supplanted by faith and courage.

In the name of our blessed Lord. Amen.

TUESDAY, MAY 16, 1950

Almighty God, in all simplicity and sincerity, we are thanking Thee for the gift of life and the blessings of this new day.

Grant that we may meet our tasks and responsibilities courageously and cheerfully, never proving ourselves recreant before any duty or cowardly before any difficulty.

Help us to feel that with the confident assurance of Thy counsel and companionship no task is too arduous, no responsibility too exacting, no trial too great, no sorrow too deep, and no burden too heavy.

When this day comes to a close and the evening shadows fall, may there be within us no vain regrets, no feelings of remorse, and no disturbing memories but may we have a conscience that is peaceful and a heart that is happy.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 1950

INFINITE AND ETERNAL GOD, who art the light of all that is true and the inspiration of all that is good, we thank Thee for the joys which cheer us and the trials which teach us to put our trust in Thee.

May the words of our mouth, the meditations of our heart, and the work of our hands be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, our strength and our Redeemer. Amen.

Memorial Services

INVOCATION

ALMIGHTY GOD, in the life of each of us there are times when all our feelings seem to impose silence.

Grant that in this hour of sacred memory we may enter into a blessed communion with Thy Spirit, and the spirit of all upon whom Thou hast bestowed the glorious benediction, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

Hear us for the sake of the Christ, our Saviour. Amen.

PRAYER

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS GOD, the God of our fathers and of their succeeding generations, through Thy holy word Thou hast spoken and in our hearts Thy voice is heard.

Thou art the author and disposer of human life, from whom our spirits have come and unto whom they return.

We thank Thee for Thy servants who walked and worked with us for a little while upon this earth and who now are with Thee in heavenly blessedness, having received, as the reward of their faith and their fidelity, the salvation of their souls.

We rejoice that whatever was noble and beautiful in their life, in Thy sight and in our sight, abides forever. We bless Thee for the glorious testimony that they sought to serve their generation according to Thy holy will and were numbered among those who do justly, who love mercy, and who walk humbly with the Lord. We have not said "farewell" but only "good night," hoping on some blessed morn to meet and dwell with them in hallowed union in that land whose language is music and where joys are unceasing.

Grant unto the sorrowing and the lonely the consolation of Thy grace. May they yield themselves without murmur or complaint to the dispensations of Thy providence for Thou dost give and Thou dost take away, and blessed is Thy name forevermore. Help them to lay hold of the peace and the eternal companionsip of the Christ.

We pray that Thou will continue to bless our Nation. We are not asking Thee to deal with us in any preferential manner. May we be a people whose God is the Lord.

May we be loyal partners with all who are laboring to build the kingdom of justice and righteousness, the social order in which there shall be peace and good will among men. Enable us to carry on in faith, in faithfulness, and in the fear of the Lord as we daily meet the problems and tasks which challenge the consecration of our noblest manhood and womanhood.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1950

O THOU GOD OF MIGHT AND OF MERCY, may we be grateful for this new day, challenging us with the opportunity and the privilege of having some part in solving the many problems in this busy world of human affairs and human relationships.

We pray that Thou wilt take our groping and faltering spirits and illumine them with Thy divine spirit and may it be the master light in all our understanding and all our decisions.

Fill us with a more vivid sense of the reality and the worth of the ideals and principles of our Christian democracy. May we seek to authenticate and validate them by our daily character and conduct.

Make us more thoughtful and considerate of all who are finding the struggle of life so burdensome. May we have a word of kindness and encouragement and a hand of helpfulness for Thy needy children.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

FRIDAY, MAY 19, 1950

ETERNAL GOD, OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, who art of all friends the nearest, of all counselors the wisest, of all helpers the ablest and most willing, we rejoice that in Thee our loftiest aspirations and deepest longings find their answer.

Grant that in this moment of sacred communion we may receive a clearer revelation and a richer experience of the eternal truth of God which will set our minds and hearts free from the errors that blind, the doubts that darken, and the fears that weaken us.

We pray that we may yield ourselves to the sovereignty of Thy wise and holy will not in dumb resignation and sullen submission, but in glad and grateful obedience to the larger life of love and service to which Thou hast called us.

In Christ's name we bring our petition. Amen.

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MONDAY, MAY 22, 1950

O THOU SUPREME RULER OF THE UNIVERSE, we thank Thee for the high and holy privilege that we have of calling ourselves citizens of this beloved country which Thou hast blessed to abundantly. Our hearts expand with joy and pride as we say, "I am an American."

Grant that our national life may be rooted more deeply in the spiritual realities. May our fundamental and guiding principles, our character and spirit, our hopes and aspirations, be truly Christian.

May our democracy be one which believes in the fatherhood of God and which practices the brotherhood of man, and may our creed and our conduct always be in close and cordial agreement.

We pray that we may also sense our responsibility in the realm of universal history. May we be more conscious of having certain distinct contributions to make to the welfare of all mankind. Help us to think and plan and act in terms of humanity. May we seek to bring to fulfillment everywhere the great ideals of righteousness, justice, liberty, and fraternity.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

TUESDAY, MAY 23, 1950

ALMIGHTY GOD, WHOSE DIVINE AUTHORITY we cannot doubt and whose appeal of sacrificial love we cannot silence, we pray that we may obey Thy holy will more faithfully.

Give us a daring confidence in the reality and power of the spiritual forces during these days when burdened and broken-hearted humanity seems to be a discordant, confused, struggling mass with nothing to hold it together.

Inspire us to accept those principles and ideals which Thou hast ordained as the sure and strong foundation upon which to build a nobler civilization.

May all the members of the human family be brought into fellowship with our blessed Lord and find in His spirit the secret of good will and the joy of an enduring peace.

In His name we bring our petitions. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 1950

O THOU WHO ART THE GREAT PRAYER-HEARING AND PRAYER-ANSWERING GOD, grant that this moment of communion with Thee may be for each of us a time of self-examination and self-discipline.

May we have the courage to face ourselves and search our minds and hearts. May we seek to understand more clearly what manner of human beings we really are and how far short we fall of what Thou wouldst have us be in our relationship to Thee and our fellow men.

We humbly confess that we are often so indifferent and thoughtless toward Thee and that in a world with its many desperate needs and longings, our natures and attitudes are frequently so selfish and self-centered, so cold and cynical, so blunt and brutal.

We pray that a loftier vision and a nobler spirit may possess and rule our lives. Show us how we may control and conquer and crucify every insurgent impulse, every inordinate affection, every evil propensity, and every unholy desire.

In the name of the Christ our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

THURSDAY, MAY 25, 1950

ALMIGHTY GOD, who art high and holy and who hast respect unto the lowly and the humble, we pray that daily our spirits may be brought into tune with Thy spirit and that our wills may be obedient to Thy divine will, for our wills are ours to make them Thine.

Grant that we may go forth to meet the duties and opportunities of this new day inspired and sustained by an unfaltering faith in Thee, a greater faith in humanity, a stronger faith in the adequacy of our moral and spiritual resources, and a more confident faith in the promise and the assurance that a better day is dawning for ourselves and all mankind.

May our souls be kindled with the enthusiasm of high ideals and with a vision of glorious enterprises and undertakings. Fill us with a longing to gain for others the blessings which we ask and seek for ourselves. May we be mindful of the eternal truth that having received any blessing from Thee makes us debtors to all Thy needy children.

In Christ's name may we give Thee all the praise. Amen.

MONDAY, MAY 29, 1950

ETERNAL GOD, OUR FATHER, as we are about to commemorate one of the great days in the calendar of our national life, we find our minds and hearts strangely stirred by the thought of the tragedy and misery of war.

We thank Thee for the courage and devotion of all who gave themselves so sacrificially in order to safeguard our heritage of freedom and democracy.

Grant that we may seek to harvest for all mankind the seed sown in blood and in tears.

Hear us in our prayer of intercession for those who are broken in mind or body or estate, still bearing the marks of suffering and sacrifice.

May the day be hastened when nations shall never again submit their claims and their decisions to the dreadful arbitrament of war. Show us how we may find the way of peace and help us to build the social order on the foundation of righteousness and justice.

We thank Thee for the life and character of Thy servant who served his country in the affairs of government and whose spirit now dwells with Thee in eternal blessedness. Grant unto the members of his bereaved family the consolation of Thy grace.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 1950

O THOU GREAT GOD, OUR FATHER, whose presence and help are the supreme needs of all mankind, we pray that in our adventures, tasks, and responsibilities we may have the assurance that Thou art our companion and counselor.

Give us a greater appreciation of the wonder and joy of life. We humbly confess that there are times when we seem to lose the tang of living; we become dispirited; we are tempted to cease to aspire and cry out, "Vanity of vanities, all is vanity."

Inspire us daily with a contributing and a participating view of life. May we see more clearly that life yields its meaning and its joy to those who believe in Thee and do Thy will, who give primacy to character, who walk in love, and who serve needy humanity.

Thou who are the author and disposer of human life, we thank Thee for Thy servant whose spirit is now in Thy near presence. Comfort the sorrowing and may Thy grace be sufficient for all their needs. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 1950

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS GOD, who art found by all who truly seek Thee, grant that our minds and hearts may be kindled with a greater devotion to Thee and our beloved country.

Emancipate us from every sin which darkens and defiles our souls and which makes us unworthy and unfit to serve Thee and our fellow men.

Keep us in the ways of honor and integrity. Gird us with faith and with fortitude. Give us patience and perseverance as we labor for the coming of that blessed day when reason and righteousness shall be gloriously triumphant.

May we never lose heart and allow our faith to become eclipsed by that debasing spirit of cynicism and defeatism which would have us believe that our search for peace and good will among men is a forlorn hope and a vague impossibility.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1950

ALMIGHTY GOD, whose resources of divine wisdom and power are abundantly adequate for all our needs, may this moment of prayer be one of sincere desire to know Thy truth and Thy will.

Inspire us with a loyalty that never wavers and a courage that never falters as we seek to fulfill the high and holy mission which Thou hast entrusted to us.

May it be our purpose and passion to minister to humanity's longings and heartaches by strengthening the bonds of appreciation, of understanding, of cooperation, of fellowship, and of peace between all the nations of the earth.

Grant that we may authenticate the glory and grandeur of the ideals and principles of our democracy by incarnating and reproducing them more fully in our daily personal life.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 1950

O THOU BLESSED AND ETERNAL GOD, who art here and everywhere, grant that we may sense Thy presence in the many and varied experiences of our human way.

We rejoice that Thou art near us with Thy sustaining grace in all our cares and concerns, our duties and responsibilities, our joys and sorrows, our trials and tribulations, our fears and struggles, our hopes and longings.

May we always be sensitive and responsive to the promptings and persuasions of Thy spirit, seeking to fortify us against every temptation that would undermine our character, strengthening our souls with a deeper faith, enlarging our hearts with a greater love, and renewing our minds with a more radiant hope.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 1950

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast created us in Thine own image and with a capacity to be like Thee in spirit, may we be loyal to our high vocation and to every noble cause, following and pursuing them, not fitfully and in a fickle mood, but with constancy and joy.

May we be true for there are those who trust us; may we be pure for there are those who care; may we be strong for there is much to suffer; may we be brave for there is much to dare; may we be humble for we know our weakness.

Grant that our loyalty and fidelity may inspire others and make it easier for them to believe and maintain their hold on whatsoever things are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, and of good report and all the cardinal virtues that are needed to make this a better and more beautiful world. In Christ's name we bring our petition. Amen.

MONDAY, JUNE 12, 1950

GOD, OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, we are again coming unto Thee in this sacred moment of spiritual fellowship beseeching Thee that our minds may be clarified and our hearts may be cleansed as we meet the duties and responsibilities of this new day.

Grant that in all our plans and proposals for the welfare of our beloved country we may be more deeply concerned about cultivating and developing its religious life and its spiritual resources.

We know that our Nation was not founded by pagans, atheists, and infidels but by God-fearing men and women at the center of whose life there was the altar of faith and prayer, which inspired them with the lofty ideals and principles of righteousness, justice, liberty, and fraternity.

We humbly confess that there are times when paganism and materialism, as a habit and way of life, seem to have a greater hold upon many of our citizens than ever before. May Thy spirit create within us a new sense of true religion and may we be ready to accept its commitments as well as its consolations, its demands and discipline as well as the blessings and delights.

Hear us in the name of our blessed Lord. Amen.

THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 1950

O THOU WHO ART THE SUPREME SOURCE OF ALL WISDOM AND POWER, grant that in these days of crisis and confusion we may have a faith that is calm and courageous, a hope that is invulnerable and invincible, a love that never falters nor fails.

May we be blessed with that deeper insight which discerns and knows how to interpret Thy divine will. May we not be afraid to make trial of that which Thou dost command.

Give us a clear mind for truth and reality. May we look at the issues and problems which confront us in a common-sense way. May none of our actions and decisions run counter to that which is right and reasonable.

Guide us by Thy spirit in finding practical and promising ways of meeting the needs and ministering to the welfare of all mankind.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

MONDAY, JUNE 19, 1950

O THOU CREATOR AND COMPANION OF OUR SOULS, we are coming unto Thee in the fellowship of prayer in order that by the touch of Thy spirit we may be renewed in faith, purified in heart, and strengthened for the tasks which await us.

We know that our plans and purposes, our efforts and endeavors for the building of a nobler civilization are futile and fruitless unless Thou dost gird us with divine wisdom and power.

Show us how we may live and labor in confidence and in courage. May we conquer every temptation and be masters over all the fears and anxieties which assail us.

Grant that dishonest and selfish thoughts and deeds may be hateful to us. May Thy law of truth and righteousness be our delight. May the grace and memory of this moment of sacred communion hallow all the hours of this day.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 1950

O THOU GOD OF ALL GRACE, we thank Thee for the many overtures of kindness, mercy, and goodness which Thou art daily extending to us as individuals and to our beloved country.

May we be eager to keep inviolate the faith of our God-fearing fathers. May the spiritual principles upon which they built our Nation continue to be the guiding principles upon which we are relying and enthroning in our individual and national life.

Inspire us with a passionate longing to promote the spirit of fellowship, sympathetic understanding, mutual respect, and unity among all the members of the human family.

Help us to hasten the coming of that glorious day when men and nations shall think and act in terms of humanity and all declarations of independence shall give way to declarations of interdependence and we shall seek one another's welfare.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 1950

ALMIGHTY GOD, whose divine sovereignty and authority we cannot doubt or disobey, we pray that daily we may faithfully and fearlessly seek to do what Thou dost command.

Show us how we may enrich and strengthen our national life and find the secret of its cohesive and conquering power.

Inspire and guide our Speaker and all the Members of this Congress in their deep concern for the honor and security of our democracy. May they perceive what is needful and devise what is right.

Grant that we may fix our hopes and expectations and desires not on mere material prosperity but upon the achievement of spiritual greatness.

Hear us in the name of the Christ. Amen.

MONDAY, JUNE 26, 1950

INFINITE AND ETERNAL GOD, whose resources of grace are abundantly adequate for all our needs, we pray that Thou wilt evoke within us a new sense of Thy greatness and goodness.

We rejoice that Thou art always seeking to inspire us with lofty aspirations, glorious visions, and mighty hopes. May we have the will and the courage to bring them to fulfillment.

Grant that we may be more eager to identify and unite our desires and purposes with Thy divine will, pledging ourselves to it in loyalty and devotion and making it the constant and controlling thought of our minds.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

TUESDAY, JUNE 27, 1950

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS GOD, who hast been our guide and companion in all our yesterdays, may the memory of Thy great goodness inspire us to meet the challenge of each new day with faith and fidelity.

Grant that our President, our Speaker, and all the Members of this legislative body may be blessed with clear minds and courageous hearts and capacities equal to the tragic needs of our generation.

We pray that, as they take counsel together, they may be guided in some special way by the eternal spirit of God in finding a just and righteous solution to all the problems of human relationships.

May the bonds of unity, which were forged in the heat of battle by freedom-loving nations, never be broken, but may they be strengthened and sustained in the glorious task of building a noble civilization.

In the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28, 1950

ETERNAL GOD, OUR FATHER, humbly and reverently we would approach Thy throne of grace, offering unto Thee our prayer of adoration, thanksgiving, supplication, and intercession.

Grant that in these days of strife and confusion, of storm and tumult, when many are tempted to yield to despair and defeatism, we may carry

on in the glad assurance that the Lord of hosts is with us, and the God of righteousness is our refuge and strength.

Unite us with all who are faithfully and heroically striving to safeguard our heritage of liberty. May we understand more clearly that freedom can only be the sure and abiding possession of those who have the courage to defend it.

Illumine our minds and hearts with a vision of that blessed day when righteousness shall be gloriously triumphant. May the spirit of the Prince of Peace in whose name we pray be the strength of our souls, His truth our light, His presence our joy. Amen.

THURSDAY, JUNE 29, 1950

ALMIGHTY GOD, by whose mercies we are spared and by whose power we are sustained, may we daily meet life's duties, difficulties, and dangers with faith and courage, confident that as our days so also shall be our strength.

Thou alone knowest the answer to the many questions which are haunting and perplexing us. May we realize that the supreme question is not whether Thou art on our side but whether we are on Thy side.

We pray that as we plan and think about mobilizing our material resources to meet humanity's desperate needs we may not fail to lay hold of our spiritual resources. May we understand more clearly that Thou art not with the many and the strong unless the many and the strong are with Thee.

Grant that each to the extent of his ability and all with equal fidelity may help to bring in that day when the kingdom of righteousness and peace shall be established everywhere.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

FRIDAY, JUNE 30, 1950

O THOU WHO ART THE SUPREME RULER OF THE UNIVERSE and the guiding intelligence in the life of all mankind, we have entered upon a new day ladened with difficult tasks and grave responsibilities.

We humbly confess that we are not sure of what we should think or say or do in order to bear effective witness that we are men of vision and worthy of our high vocation as statesmen and spiritual leaders.

Grant that we may yield ourselves to the interpreting and guiding light of Thy spirit, assured that the secret of our blessedness is to be found in obeying Thy will and following Thy leading.

Fill us with longings and hopes for that blessed day of prediction when the nations of the earth shall be united in the bonds of brotherhood, seeking

together the blessings of freedom and peace which none can ever find or enjoy alone.

Hear us in the name of the Christ, our Saviour. Amen.

MONDAY, JULY 3, 1950

O THOU GOD OF MAJESTY AND MERCY, may we now be lifted by the mighty tides of Thy grace into the glad assurance that Thou art willing and able to help us meet all our challenging tasks and responsibilities.

We penitently confess that frequently we are far more conscious of our problems and perplexities, our trials and tribulations, than we are of Thy gracious providence and those inexhaustible resources of power which Thou hast placed at our disposal and which we are privileged to appropriate by faith.

Our finite minds do not know how to rightly read and interpret the signs of the times but may we believe that it is our highest wisdom to trust Thee and not be afraid.

Grant that our beloved country, conceived in sacrifice and dedicated to liberty, may be inspired and strengthened in its glorious mission of helping to release the hidden splendor of humanity and lead all mankind into the radiant light of a new day.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1950

ALMIGHTY GOD, SOURCE OF LIFE AND LIGHT, OF WISDOM AND POWER, whose greatness and goodness are ever round about us, grant that nothing may eclipse our faith in Thee, disturb our confidence in Thy love, or cause our ideals to lose their splendor.

We pray that the chosen representatives of our beloved may be men whose manhood can match the mountains of difficulty. May they face the future without fear, seek the more abundant life for all mankind, and walk humbly with the Lord, our God.

May we never be cowardly when we ought be courageous, never confused when we ought to be calm, never faithless when we ought to go forth with fortitude in the high adventure of building a new world of righteousness and peace.

Hasten the coming of the day when men shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks, and nations shall learn war no more.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

FRIDAY, JULY 7, 1950

ETERNAL AND EVER-BLESSED GOD, whose greatness is unsearchable and whose amazing goodness crowneth all our days, grant that our minds and hearts may comprehend more fully the revelations of Thy truth and Thy will.

We pray that Thou wilt bless our beloved country and all with whom we are united in the struggle to defend the sacred heritage of freedom and the ways of peace and happiness for all mankind.

Kindle and strengthen within us the spirit of brotherhood that in times of peril we may sustain one another and in suffering and calamity we may minister unto one another's needs.

Inspire our souls with a passionate longing for that glorious day when men and nations shall give their allegiance to the Prince of Peace who rules not with the rod of iron but with the scepter of justice, righteousness, mercy, and love.

Hear us in His name. Amen.

MONDAY, JULY 10, 1950

O THOU ETERNAL GOD, OUR FATHER, who art unchanging in Thy greatness and goodness, Thy wisdom and power, Thy mercy and love, higherto we have dwelt in safety under the canopy of Thy divine providence.

Thou hast been mindful of all our ceaseless needs and faithful unto all Thy promises, not withholding from us any needed blessing. May the memory of Thy loving kindness hallow all our days and inspire us to carry on calmly and courageously.

Grant that in the deliberations and decisions of this day we may have the guidance of Thy spirit, placing our hands in Thine and following Thy ways, for Thy ways are those of pleasantness and peace.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

TUESDAY, JULY 11, 1950

ALMIGHTY GOD, who art of all counselors the wisest, of all companions the nearest, and of all helpers the ablest and most willing, grant that during these strange and strenuous days we may avail ourselves confidently and constantly of that wisdom which never errs, that love which never forsakes, and that strength which never fails.

We pray that Thou wilt take over our groping and faltering spirits, emancipating us from all fear, assuring us that Thou art the God of justice and righteousness.

We thank Thee for the men and women who are now giving themselves so courageously and valiantly in order to safeguard our noble heritage of freedom. May the day soon come when the forces of evil shall be forever banished from the earth and men and nations shall walk together in love and good will, carrying the banner of peace.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 1950

GOD OF ALL GRACE, whose presence is our shield in the stillness of the night and our strength in the struggles of each new day, may we realize how wonderful it is that in these days of crisis and peril we may enter into communion and counsel with the God of all grace and wisdom.

We feel that we are engaged in a just and righteous cause but we penitently confess that we are tempted to place all our reliance and confidence in human ingenuity. Thou knowest how prone we are to continue to live selfishly and complacently even when others are giving themselves so heroically and sacrificially in defense of liberty.

May this moment of prayer be one of cleansing of hearts and consecration of purpose. Purge us from everything which dwarfs and deadens our capacities for noble and courageous service. Give us a strong faith which will inspire us to perform our tasks with a pure and steadfast devotion.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

THURSDAY, JULY 13, 1950

ALMIGHTY GOD, whose heart always opens with love in response to those who truly seek Thee, we are again entering into Thy presence through the gateway of prayer which is never closed to those who come with a humble spirit.

Grant that in these days of anxiety and evil tidings we may deepen our faith in the inexhaustible resources of Thy grace. May our minds be illumined with a vision of the Lord God omnipotent and our hearts be made courageous by His companionship.

Wilt Thou keep us from pride when we are prosperous and victorious and from bitterness and despair when we are in want and distress. When earthly lights are extinguished by adversity and affliction, by trials and tribulations, wilt Thou enable us to see the eternal stars.

We pray that our beloved country may continue to be the abode of peace, the land of the free and the home of the brave, ever loyal to its historic ideals of truth and righteousness and glorious in unselfish service for all mankind.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

TUESDAY, JULY 18, 1950

INFINITE GOD WHO ART THE GRACIOUS BENEFACTOR OF ALL MANKIND, we thank Thee for this day which has come to us as a sacred gift, bringing with it glorious opportunities for service and tasks which challenge the consecration of our noblest manhood and womanhood.

We pray that Thou wilt mediate unto us, through Thy spirit, that divine wisdom and power which will enable us to see our duties and responsibilities more clearly, understand and interpret them more wisely, and perform them more faithfully and courageously.

We are daily praying that Thy special blessing may rest upon our President, our Speaker, and all the leaders and Members of this legislative body. Grant unto them that spiritual guidance which transcends the fallibility of all human wisdom and that strength which never fails or grows weary in well-doing.

Hasten the time when sentiments and thoughts of good will shall permeate the mind of man and the righteousness of God shall flow everywhere as a mighty stream lifting the nations of the earth into the loftier altitudes of peace.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 1950

O THOU WHO WERT THE GOD OF OUR FATHERS, in every generation Thou hast revealed Thyself as man's unfailing friend, his ever-present help and everlasting hope.

Grant that in these days, when the whole world is groping in darkness, we may validate this revelation by a calm and courageous faith in the guiding intelligence and invincible power of the Lord, our God.

May this be a day of unclouded vision for our President, for our Speaker, and all the chosen representatives of our Republic as they take counsel together and courageously seek to emancipate suffering and struggling humanity from the evil forces of aggression and aggrandizement.

Humbly and penitently we are invoking Thy blessing for we know that all our plans and efforts for the triumph of peace and righteousness will be futile and fruitless unless Thou dost gird us with divine wisdom and strength.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

MONDAY, JULY 24, 1950

O THOU INFINITE AND ETERNAL GOD, grant that in these days of world crisis we may have that courage of heart and that constancy of faith which will keep us from anxiety and fear, from discouragement and despair.

Wilt Thou daily illumine with divine wisdom the minds of all who have been called to lead our beloved country in this time of trial and struggle.

We thank Thee for our fellow citizens who are out on the fields of battle giving themselves so bravely and sacrificially for the preservation of those blessings of freedom and democracy which our forefathers found hard to win and which we now are finding hard to hold.

May we be faithful and worthy partners with all who are the loyal champions of the rights of man and who are seeking to bring in that better day when the kingdom of peace and good will shall be established everywhere.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

TUESDAY, JULY 25, 1950

O THOU WHOSE RESOURCES OF GRACE are inexhaustible and abundantly adequate, we pray that we may be numbered among the seekers and finders of God, for we need Thee so greatly and desperately in all the strange and various experiences of each new day.

Thou hast given us victory in days gone by and we are committing and commending ourselves to Thy care and keeping in the days to come.

May we have the courage to believe that the kingdom of God, the kingdom of brotherhood, will be established upon the earth, and may we be eager to hasten the coming of that blessed day of prediction when peace and good will shall prevail everywhere.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 1950

ALMIGHTY AND EVER-BLESSED GOD, grant that our moments of prayer may be times of lofty vision, of insight and inspiration. May we be strengthened to accept the challenge of every difficult task and every noble adventure.

We humbly confess that our lives are frequently so low-vaulted and we allow the windows of our souls to be made opaque by mere material ambitions and interests and there is no clear discernment of the spiritual realities and values.

We penitently seek Thy forgiveness for as nations and members of the human family we have been content to live on the lowlands of materialism and have failed to take cognizance of the spiritual.

Give us this day such a clear and commanding vision of the glory and splendor of the kingdom of righteousness and peace that we shall make its consummation the goal of all our aspirations and endeavors.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

THURSDAY, JULY 27, 1950

O THOU WHO ART THE GREAT SOURCE of all our material and spiritual blessings, may we be assured in some special sense that this Chamber is now for each of us an altar of prayer and a place of vision.

Grant that our President, our Speaker, and every leader and Member of this legislative body, and all the officers, clerks, reporters, secretaries, and pages may feel that for calmness and courage, in these days of crises, we need the guiding and sustaining presence of Thy Spirit.

Thou knowest how feeble and frail we are. In letters of blood and fire it is being written that we need Thee. Fill us with a deeper experience of the value of prayer in the mastery over fear and whatever may befall us in the tragic and changing fortunes of war.

May we daily cultivate the habit of prayer. Help us to realize that if we pray in ordinary days then we will know how to pray with conquering power when the way of life leads through darkness, suffering, and sacrifice.

Help us see more clearly that we must have the attributes and virtues of righteousness and faith and humility if we are to know and experience the secret of answered and availing prayer.

In Christ's name we bring our petitions. Amen.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 1950

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS GOD, our light in darkness, our strength in weakness, our consolation in sorrow, our refuge in times of trial and tribulation, may we begin this new day strong in faith and in the assurance of Thy guiding and sustaining presence.

Grant that in our hours of doubt and perplexity, of confusion and uncertainty, we may not surrender to despair or allow our trust in Thee to become eclipsed but, with increasing tenacity of faith and courage, may we lay hold upon the eternal truth that Thy grace is sufficient for all our needs.

We believe, help Thou our unbelief, that the longings and aspirations for peace, which Thou hast implanted within our hearts, will be fulfilled and that righteousness and justice will be the controlling principles in the life of all mankind.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 1950

ALMIGHTY GOD, OUR FATHER, who art worthy of more than our highest praise, our deepest love, and our purest devotion, may the hours of this day be radiant in the realization of Thy presence, Thy peace, and Thy power.

May it be the goal of all our aspirations and desires to be one with Thee in spirit and to serve our generation according to Thy holy will.

Grant that in our prayers we may remember more frequently and fervently those who are now on the fields of battle giving themselves so bravely and sacrificially for those treasures of life which we are privileged to enjoy.

May we have the courage to believe that out of the strife and struggles in which the peace-loving nations are engaged there will emerge that which is curative and creative in the building of a better world.

Wilt Thou hasten the coming of that day when all the members of the human family shall be united in the bonds of brotherhood and yield themselves to the kind and kingly sovereignty of the Prince of Peace.

To Thy name we shall give all the glory. Amen.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4, 1950

O THOU WHO ART THE SUPREME RULER OF THE UNIVERSE and its guiding intelligence, we are again entering the sacred retreat of prayer, beseeching Thee to make our minds and hearts the shrines of Thy grace and the sanctuaries of Thy presence.

Grant that during these days, with their many difficult problems and heavy responsibilities, we may discern Thy will more clearly and be sensitive and responsive to the God-inspired impulses and follow earnestly the leading of Thy spirit which transcends the wisdom of all our own feeble plans and desires.

We pray that we may declare with undaunted faith and courage that the great moral and spiritual principles of righteousness and justice for which we are contending in the council of nations and on the fields of battle are not mere dreams and delusions but that they are written in the very constitution of that life which Thou hast ordained for all mankind.

May special revelations of insight and vision be given to our President, our Speaker, and all who share in the responsibilities of government as they seek to translate the lofty ideals of democracy into practical economic, political, and social realities and strive to make them regnant in the life of our Republic and the whole world. Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

MONDAY, AUGUST 7, 1950

Almighty God, who alone canst fulfill and satisfy our deepest longing and our highest hopes, may this be a day of quest and of conquest.

May we earnestly seek to bring our faltering and groping spirits into harmony with Thy spirit in order that we may learn the secret of victorious and joyous living.

Grant that we may interpret all the dispensation of Thy divine providence and all Thy dealings with us as the messengers of Thy wisdom and grace.

When we stand at the crossroads not knowing which way to go, may we hear and heed Thy voice saying unto us, "This is the way; he that followeth Me shall not walk in darkness."

We pray that nothing may undermine our faith in the invincible and conquering power of truth and righteousness. May all the evil forces, which are seeking to impede the progress of the kingdom of peace, be forever banished from the earth.

Hear us in the name of the Captain of our salvation. Amen.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1950

O Thou Eternal Spirit, we are again seeking Thee in the fellowship of prayer, for we know that for courage and consolation, for hope and endurance we need the wisdom and strength of the Lord God Almighty.

May this Chamber now be a veritable mount of vision. Here may we receive insight and inspiration for the duties and demands of this new day. Reveal unto us the reality and adequacy of Thy grace for all our needs.

Grant that we may eagerly covet the companionship of Thy presence and the assurance of Thy guidance as we daily give ourselves to the great adventure of building a social order that will be more wonderful and blessed than our fondest hopes.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9, 1950

God of love, whose all-pervading presence is our shield in the stillness of the night and our strength in the struggles of each new day, we would now render unto Thee the tribute of our heartfelt praise for the many assurances of Thy continuing care and goodness.

Grant that we may see more clearly our need of accepting the Master's overtures of counsel and companionship if we would be impervious to all despondent and cynical tempers of mind and heart during these days of darkness and confusion.

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May we be loyal partners with all who are seeking to bring peace upon this earth, and may good will and brotherhood prevail everywhere.

Hear us in the name of our blessed Lord. Amen.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 1950

ALMIGHTY GOD, OUR FATHER, who dost hear and help those who seek Thee with humble and honest hearts, we pray that in simplicity and sincerity we may daily yield ourselves to Thy sovereign will.

May all who serve our Nation in the affairs of government bear calm and courageous testimony to their faith in Thy divine wisdom which never errs, and Thy divine strength which never fails.

Grant that we may have a clear vision of those spiritual principles which are the only foundation upon which mankind can build its habitation of friendship, its temple of righteousness and justice, and its palace of an enduring peace.

Hear us in the name of our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 1950

O THOU BY WHOSE KIND AND GRACIOUS PROVIDENCE all our needs are continually supplied, inspire us in this moment of prayer with a greater faith in the unfailing presence and power of the Lord, our God.

We pray that in these days, which are so significant and serious in their urgent demands and tragic necessities, we may give ourselves sincerely and steadfastly to the task of leading struggling humanity out of darkness into the light and liberty of the sons of God.

May we cleave with increasing determination and fond affection to that glorious hope when the social order for which we are praying and laboring shall conform completely to the ideals and principles of the Prince of Peace.

Hear us in His name. Amen.

MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 1950

O THOU GOD OF MAJESTY AND MERCY, we are coming unto Thee impelled and inspired by the glorious promises that "they who wait upon the Lord shall mount up with wings as eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint."

Grant that in these days of crisis and destiny we may have the vision to see that all our plans and purposes, all our decisions and actions must be implemented with those spiritual dynamics and resources which Thou hast ordained and placed at our disposal if we would aspire to build a nobler civilization.

We pray that the minds and hearts of all who share in the responsibilities of government may be strong and vigorous in faith and courage as they seek in unity of spirit to perform the many challenging duties of their high vocation.

Hear us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1950

INFINITE AND ETERNAL GOD, the strength of heroic souls in every generation, grant that daily we may be inspired with those lofty ideals and aspirations which are the progenitors of noble achievements.

May our minds and hearts be brought under the spell and sway of the guiding and interpreting light of Thy divine spirit for we humbly confess that we are frequently bewildered and doubt our own best judgment.

We pray that the leaders and Members of this legislative body, whom we honor and revere as our first men and women, may also be our best men and women, walking and working in the fear of the Lord, thinking clearly and acting courageously as they strive to kindle anew the high idealism of our beloved country.

Grant that the day may come when nations everywhere shall be eager to enlist in that glorious warfare, not waged with carnal weapons but with the insight and understanding of minds and souls that are seeking to witness to the glory of Thy righteousness and the wonder of Thy goodness.

Hear us in the name of the Christ who is our hope and our peace. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16, 1950

ALMIGHTY GOD, OUR FATHER, in these days of tragedy and of desperate needs, we are not turning our eyes upon the ground whence no help can come but we are turning them heavenward and unto Thee.

Wilt Thou emancipate our minds and hearts from that low visibility which comes from spiritual poverty and from self-seeking. Establish within us that courageous faith which cannot be shaken and those loyalties and integrities of character which will be our strength and hope when we are perplexed and in despair.

May Thy divine voice of wisdom and counsel be heard and heeded by Thy servants as they face heavy responsibilities. May we be worthy comrades of all who are now struggling so valiantly in far-off lands to preserve and perpetuate our heritage of freedom.

Grant that the victory which we are striving to gain may be a victory for Thee. May we have a large share in establishing the kingdom of justice, righteousness, and peace.

In Christ's name we bring our petition. Amen.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 1950

O THOU WHO HAST BROUGHT US OUT OF THE DARKNESS OF THE NIGHT into the glory and beauty of this new day, grant that in all the tasks and responsibilities of our high calling we may have the assurance of Thy presence, the fullness of Thy power, and the benediction of Thy peace.

Grant that we may now yield ourselves to the guidance of Thy spirit. We know that Thou art the God of righteousness and of victory and that we have been created not for failure but for triumph.

We pray that we may have the courage to believe that a day will dawn when all the instruments of warfare shall become the instruments of welfare in the building of a nobler civilization and nations shall rise to the loftier altitudes of amity of peace.

We offer our prayer through the merits and mediation of the Christ, our Saviour. Amen.

MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 1950

ETERNAL GOD, OUR CREATOR AND BENEFACTOR, whose resources of grace and wisdom transcend our greatest needs, may this moment of prayer be one of penitence and praise, of supplication and intercession, of commitment and consecration.

May we now give ourselves in all humility and earnestness to the fulfillment of that blessed time when the kingdoms of this earth shall be the Kingdom of our Lord and Saviour.

Grant that we may be motivated by an all-consuming passion to hasten the coming of that day when men everywhere shall daily walk in fellowship with the Prince of Peace.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, 1950

O THOU DIVINE SPIRIT, who alone canst lead forlon and faltering humanity out of dark and devious ways into the radiant paths of a brighter and better day, Thou knowest the deepest yearnings of our hearts.

We pray that we may look upwardly unto Thee, placing our hands in Thine and heeding Thy voice as Thou dost say, "This is the way, walk ye therein."

Grant that the chosen representatives of our beloved country may be blessed with clear minds and courageous hearts, We pray that, as leaders in a Christian nation, they may be fearless in meeting the demands of the most difficult problems and decisions with the claims and the confidence of the spirit of the Prince of Peace.

Hear us in His name. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1950

O Thou infinite and eternal God, we are lifting up our hearts to Thee in praise and in adoration for this new day filled with blessings which are sufficient for our many needs.

We rejoice that Thou art always seeking to inspire us with lofty aspirations, glorious visions, and mighty hopes, but we persistently confess that we fall so far below those high and holy ideals which Thou hast placed within our souls.

Grant that we may be transformed from what we are to what we ought to be. May the spiritual principles of righteousness and justice, of reverence and love for God and man, be enthroned in our minds and hearts and become regnant in the life of all mankind.

We pray that Thou wilt deepen within us the confidence that the day is dawning when the members of the human family shall bear clearer witness to their kinship with the Master and shall clasp hands in friendship and brotherhood.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, 1950

Almighty God, our Father, we are again humbly uniting our hearts in the fellowship of prayer to adore Thy great and holy name, to confess our sins, to render unto Thee our gratitude, and to seek Thy blessings and Thy benediction for ourselves and all mankind.

Thou alone knowest what our greatest needs are in these days of strife and confusion. Give us a reassuring sense of Thyself, for when we have Thee we have everything, a presence to strengthen and inspire, a light to guide and cheer, a sympathy to comfort and encourage, and a love which will not let us down and never let us go.

Grant that during this day we may sense the sanctity of all our tasks and responsibilities. May that day of blessed prediction soon come when there shall be peace on this earth and good will among men.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 1950

O Thou who art the Supreme Intelligence, may the Members of this legislative body daily come to the sacrament of public service richly endowed with clear judgment and wise decision.

Grant that during these days, when our national and international problems and tasks seem so very complex and difficult, we may know that we were never meant or expected to meet them unaided and alone, for Thou hast made available the inexhaustible resources of Thy grace.

Help us to feel that there is no one else of whom we can ask and expect so much, for Thou art of all counselors the wisest, of all companions the nearest, and of all helpers the ablest and most willing to meet our every need.

May the day be hastened when we shall find a just and righteous solution to all our problems.

To Thy name we ascribe the praise, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 1950

ALMIGHTY AND ETERNAL GOD, grant that in a humble spirit and a contrite heart we may now beseech Thee for a vivid and vital experience of Thy presence during all the hours of this new day.

We thank Thee for the joy and peace which fill our souls when we have this experience; for its inspiration in our times of doubt and discouragement; for its restraining and arresting influence in our moments of temptation; for its strengthening and sustaining power when the struggle of life is difficult and our hearts are overwhelmed.

May the time come when men everywhere shall give themselves in a glad and willing obedience to the Prince of Peace.

To Thy name we ascribe all the praise. Amen.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29, 1950

GOD OF ALL GRACE AND GOODNESS, Thou hast entrusted Thy servants with a high and sacred vocation. May they earnestly covet the benediction which Thou dost bestow upon the faithful.

Grant that daily we may bear witness to our kinship with Thee, counting it our greatest privilege to avail ourselves of Thy divine companionship, our highest wisdom to seek and follow Thy guidance, and our loftiest aspiration to incarnate the spirit of our blessed Lord and to manifest that spirit in all the spheres of human relationships.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 1950

ALMIGHTY GOD, daily Thou art revealing Thy greatness and Thy goodness. Grant that in these revelations we may see more clearly that Thou art able and willing to give us all that Thou hast promised and confer upon us everything we need.

May we never yield to that devastating mood of fatalism and defeatism which makes us feel that our faith is vain and that all our plans and efforts to build a nobler civilization will be futile.

We pray that we may be loyal co-workers with Thee and with one another. Inspire us with clear vision and undaunted courage. Give us a faith which casts out fear and a hope which defies despair.

To Thy name, through Christ our Lord, we give all the praise. Amen.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 1950

O THOU ETERNAL GOD, may this moment of prayer be for each of us a cleansing and consecration of heart and mind. May it be radiant with insight and inspiration as we address ourselves humbly and confidently to the many challenging tasks and responsibilities of this new day.

Make us more acutely sensitive and more eagerly responsive to Thy voice. May the voice of America be the voice of God as we proclaim to suffering and struggling humanity the blessings of freedom and democracy. May the time be hastened when men everywhere shall be living in a social order in which they shall be enjoying the blessings of lasting peace. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1950

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS GOD, Thou hast created us in Thine own image and endowed us with capacities to attain unto the glorious likeness of the spirit of our blessed Lord.

Purge our minds and hearts from all those attitudes and activities which are contrary and alien to His spirit of love and reverence for Thee and good will toward man.

We pray that daily we may give life a more sacred and valiant reading by interpreting and manifesting its high and holy meaning and mission in terms of sacrificial service for God, for our country, and all mankind.

Grant that we may have a large part in building a nobler social order in which our bruised and broken and war-torn world shall find the blessing of peace.

We thank Thee for the Christian life and faithful ministry of Thy servant whose spirit now dwells with Thee in eternal blessedness. Grant unto the members of his bereaved family the consolation of Thy Grace.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1950

ALMIGHTY AND ETERNAL GOD, who hast been our guide and companion, our refuge and strength, in all our yesterdays, may the memory of Thy great goodness inspire us to enter faithfully and courageously upon the tasks and duties of each new day.

Fortify us against those specters of fear and faithlessness which haunt and assail us when our minds are baffled and our hearts are burdened. Grant that we may seek more eagerly the counsel of Thy divine wisdom and the consolation of Thy love when we are tempted to surrender to cynicism and despair.

Show us how our beloved country, so richly endowed by Thy grace, may be the glorious channel through which there shall flow, as a mighty stream, the blessings of freedom for the oppressed, enlightenment for all who walk in darkness, and joy and hope for the weary and heavy ladened.

We offer our prayers of praise and petition through the merits and mediation of our blessed Lord and Saviour. Amen.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1950

GOD OF ALL MAJESTY AND HOLINESS, who art far beyond the compass of the reasonings and understanding of our finite minds, we rejoice that Thou art always within reach of sincere and simple faith and of the humble spirit and contrite heart.

We thank Thee for the gift of this new day. Help us to banish every thought, silence every word, and refrain from every act that might mar its glory and beauty.

Inspire us with a longing for that blessed day of freedom when men shall beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks and nations shall learn war no more.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1950

ALMIGHTY GOD, OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, from whom cometh our help and strength for this day, inspire and equip us with those capacities and abilities with which to meet all our obligations and opportunities.

Grant that in our search for world peace and a nobler civilization all the citizens of our beloved country may be ready to yield themselves to the stern demands and disciplines of that quest.

Help us to see more vividly that, if this quest for peace is ever to become a glorious conquest then we must have the spirit of devotion, self-denial, and sacrifice, each giving according to ability and all with equal fidelity.

Show us how we may conquer and banish forever the tyrannies of war. Transform our hearts and illumine our minds by the spirit of the Prince of Peace and may we follow Him in faith, humility, and courage.

Hear us in His name. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1950

O Thou Lord God omnipotent, who alone canst supply our temporal needs and satisfy our eternal longings, we are again unburdening ourselves humbly and reverently to Thy listening ear and understanding heart.

Thou knowest how feeble we are in faith, how fickle in fidelity, how dim and distorted our vision of Thy divine greatness and goodness, how we fail to see life in its true perspective, and that we enter hesitatingly and wistfully upon our duties and responsibilities.

Grant that we may avail ourselves more eagerly and confidently of the great moral and spiritual resources when life presses hard upon us with its many trials and tribulations.

Give us the blessed assurance that a day is dawning when the evil and sinister forces of aggression, which are breaking the heart of humanity and blaspheming Thy holy name, shall be supplanted by truth and righteousness. Through Christ, our Saviour, we ascribe unto Thee all the praise. Amen.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1950

O Thou gracious benefactor, whose heart and hands always respond to our many needs, may this be a day of unclouded vision and of joyous achievement for the glory of God and the welfare of humanity.

Help us to walk the way of life with a firm step which nothing can impede and a courage of heart which nothing can daunt and a splendor of faith which can never be eclipsed by doubt or despair.

May all the devastating and disintegrating emotions of anxiety and fear and cowardice, which would dwarf and deaden our capacities for noble service in these perilous days, be forever dispelled.

We pray that Thou wilt rebuke and restrain us when we allow thoughts of personal aggrandizement to find lodgement in our souls and may we never be recreant to any of the duties of our vocation as the servants of God and our beloved country.

Enable us by Thy grace to live heroically, helpfully, and hopefully and may we strive earnestly to lift all mankind to the high plateau of peace and good will.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1950

Our Heavenly Father, may we now yield ourselves gladly and unreservedly to the leading of Thy spirit for we cannot meet our various experiences faithfully and discharge our duties efficiently unless Thou dost gird and guide us with divine wisdom and strength.

Thou knowest how frequently we falter and break faith with Thee and our better self. When we bring our lives under the searching light and scrutiny of Thy divine law we are filled with an accusing and haunting sense of our disobedience and failure.

Humbly and confidently we would on this day join the vast multitude of believing souls in fervent prayer for the coming of that blessed time when this beautiful world, which Thou has created, shall never again be cursed by war, blasted by cruelty, and darkened by hatred.

God forbid that we should ever feel that the proclamation of the angel of peace on earth and good will among men is merely a dream and that it lies beyond the sphere of practical realization.

Wilt Thou bless in some special way the representatives of the united and freedom-loving nations as they take counsel together. Inspire them with the assurance that the God of peace is with them as they continue to affirm and champion courageously whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely and whatsoever things are of good report.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1950

ETERNAL GOD, OUR FATHER, we pray that Thou wilt daily illumine our minds and hearts with Thy divine light and share with us Thy divine wisdom.

May we enter upon each new day with a calm and courageous spirit and a glorious vision of a better world. In all our plans and purposes, in all our deliberations and decisions may we endeavor to blend our wills with Thine, lest the vision fade and we wander in darkness.

Inspire us with an earnest longing to build the social order upon the principles of justice and righteousness.

Grant that sentiments of friendship and brotherhood may permeate the life of all the members of the human family. May these sentiments become more natural, more impartial, and more powerful.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1950

O THOU WHO HAST DISPELLED THE DARKNESS OF THE NIGHT and illumined the earth with the radiant splendor of a new day, we rejoice that Thou art always bestowing upon us the blessings of Thy bountiful providence and unfailing love.

We pray that we may now open widely the doors of our minds and hearts to the promptings and persuasions of Thy Holy Spirit and receive a vivid

and vital experience of Thy guiding and sustaining presence as we address ourselves to tasks which are far beyond our own finite wisdom and strength.

Daily our thoughts go out to the men on the far-away battlefields who are serving our country with great fidelity and fortitude. Grant that we may never be guilty of a careless and complacent temper of soul as we think of the tremendous struggles and sacrifices which they are making to safeguard the heritage of freedom which we are privileged to enjoy.

May we be loyal partners with all who are seeking to open the way toward a happier and more abundant life for all mankind. Hear us in the name of our blessed Lord who went about doing good and was moved with compassion for needy and suffering humanity. Amen.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1950

ALMIGHTY GOD, we are again coming unto Thee with our many needs, encouraged by every gracious invitation in Thy holy word and constrained by Thy love from which nothing can ever separate us.

May everything that mars or hinders our heritage, our assurance and our enjoyment of an intimate fellowship with Thee be taken away.

Grant that the mind and heart of our President, our Speaker and all the Members of the Congress may be made strong and vigorous with great moral and spiritual ideals and principles as they seek in unity of spirit to perform the many arduous and challenging tasks of their high vocation.

May it be the goal of all our aspirations and longings, our labors and prayers to bring in that blessed day when the forces of righteousness shall be victorious and peace shall prevail everywhere.

When we think of the tremendous sacrifices, which are being made by so many of our own fellow citizens in order that freedom may be triumphant, we are compelled to exclaim in all humility: "Alas, alas, next to defeat the saddest thing is victory at such a cost." Make us worthy of their sacrifices and of victory.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1950

O THOU INFINITE AND ETERNAL GOD, through whose mercies we are spared, and by whose power we are daily sustained, hitherto Thou hast blessed us and we have found Thee faithful unto all Thy promises.

On this day we would render unto Thee the tribute of our heartfelt gratitude for the high and holy privilege we have had of walking and working together in the service of our God, our country, and humanity.

We pray that Thou wilt bestow the benediction of Thy peace and the diadem of Thy praise, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant," upon

our President, our Speaker, the chosen representatives of our Republic, and all who have served our Nation during this session of Congress, in whatever capacity.

We commend and commit one another to Thy love and care. We know not what the future has in store for us, but we will trust Thee and not be afraid, for we have the glad assurance that, as our days, so also shall be our strength and that no needed blessing wilt Thou withhold from us if we do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with the Lord.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1950

ALMIGHTY GOD, who art far beyond the wisdom and the best reasoning of our finite minds, we rejoice that Thou art always within reach of sincere and simple faith and ready to reveal Thy will unto the humble spirit and contrite heart.

We thank Thee for this new day with its many opportunities for noble and courageous service and further effort in the building of a better world. May our faith never be eclipsed by doubt or fear and may we never grow weary in well-doing.

Grant that in all the emergencies and crises of our national life we may rely upon Thy divine providence. May the sense of Thy presence be as clear in politics and statecraft as in religion and may it motivate all our thoughts and actions.

We pray that our President, our Speaker, our chosen Representatives, out statesmen, our soldiers and all the citizens of our Republic may feel the compelling constraints of establishing the kingdom of peace and righteousness upon the earth. In their plans and labors, their struggles and sacrifices, may they be sustained by a radiant vision of its ultimate triumph.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1950

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS GOD, who hast been our strength in ages past and art our only hope for years to come, we are again lifting our hearts in unison beseeching Thee for wisdom and guidance as we face difficult tasks and responsibilities in this needy and war-torn world.

We pray that Thou wilt bless all councils and assemblies and conferences which are seeking to promote the spirit of amity and concord among the nations of the earth. May the deliberations and decisions of the leaders and representatives of our own beloved country help to establish a commonwealth of freemen, strong and great in the fear of God, loving righteousness and walking in the ways of peace.

Inspire rulers and people everywhere with a longing to solve the problems of human relationship upon the high level of a hallowed respect for the sanctity of human rights and liberties and a Christ-like reverence for the worth and dignity of the soul of man created in Thine own image and destined for immortal life.

To Thy name we ascribe all the praise. Amen.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1950

ETERNAL GOD, whose resources of wisdom and power are inexhaustible, grant that in these days, when truth and righteousness and justice are being violated, we may have the clear and commanding conviction that these virtues and forces can never be defeated or destroyed.

However great the temporary triumph of the enemy, however severe our sufferings and sacrifices may be, we are confident that our cause will be victorious.

We know that the struggle in which we are engaged is testing our material strength to the utmost but may we not fail to see that the more serious test is that of our morale.

Give us a calm and courageous spirit and an indomitable faith. May the least as well as the greatest, the weakest as well as the strongest, have a share in maintaining the Nation's morale and thus render valuable service to our beloved country in its time of desperate need.

We pray that Thou wilt guide with Thy Spirit the representatives of the freedom-loving nations as they take counsel together in an effort to resolve all international conflicts and reconcile all international estrangements.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1950

O THOU, WHO ART THE LORD GOD, omnipresent, omniscient, and omnipotent, in this moment of prayer we are beseeching Thee for a greater faith in Thy presence, wisdom, and power.

Grant that our faith in these attributes of Thy divine being may not simply be a formal creed which we affirm and profess but may it be a real personal experience.

May it be a source of peace and power enabling us to conquer all our fears and anxieties and strengthening us for every trial and tribulation.

We pray that our President, our Speaker, and all the Members of this legislative body may be richly endowed with faith. May they be blessed with a calm and confident spirit which is essential to wise judgment and decision and which will inspire them to carry on with courage and steadfast purpose.

Give us daily the firm conviction that Thou hast placed us in a moral universe and that righteousness and justice and all the spiritual values of freedom, good will, kindness, purity, love, and peace must prevail.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1950

O THOU WHO ART THE SUPREME RULER OF THE UNIVERSE and the guiding intelligence in the life of men and of nations, we pray that we may now be inspired with a reassuring sense of Thy greatness and goodness, Thy presence and power, Thy love and care.

We humbly confess that we feel so insignificant and helpless when we think of ourselves in our relationship to the many difficult problems in this time of national and world crisis.

There seems to be so little that we can do, individually, to direct the fateful course of human events. Even the wisest know so little. The odds against our moral and spiritual idealism appear so great.

Help us daily to encourage ourselves and one another with the glad assurance that in all our desires and struggles to champion and serve the cause of freedom against tyranny, of right against wrong, of good against evil, we are not alone, for the Lord of righteousness is with us.

May this assurance be our strength and the climax of our praise and the grand crescendo in all our thoughts and feelings.

Hear us in the name of the Christ who is the captain of our salvation. Amen.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1950

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, without whose divine guidance we cannot carry on, we pray that the life of men and nations everywhere may be touched and transformed by a greater fidelity to Thee.

We penitently confess that we so frequently forget and forsake Thee. We fail to see that our supreme loyalty is to Thee and that this is the source and basis and inspiration of all other loyalties, the fidelity of the soul to its better self and to truth, of the loyalty of patriot to country, of friend to friend, of man to man, and of nation to nation.

Help us to understand that our tragic world problem is not primarily one of human or international relationship but that it is something far more basic and fundamental. May we see that it is the problem of bringing man into an obedient relationship to Thee.

Grant that we may realize more fully that all our efforts to achieve good will and a lasting peace will be vain and futile unless humanity is brought into a glad and willing obedience to Thee and Thy divine will.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1950

O THOU GREAT GOD, OUR FATHER, we have entered upon a new day challenged by tasks which are far beyond our own wisdom and strength and far larger than all party differences. Give us now a clearer vision of high and helpful things that we may do together.

We pray that Thou wilt make us more radiantly sure of Thyself and may we not lose the sense of Thy presence as we face our duties and responsibilities.

Thou knowest how frequently our minds and hearts are assailed with moods of doubt and despair, of futility and frustration. May we never accept the verdict of these low moments or take counsel with our fears.

Help us to affirm more earnestly the great divine certainties. Show us how we may have our life oriented in Thee and find the secret of peace for ourselves and the whole world.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1950

O THOU WHO ART OUR REFUGE AND STRENGTH, our companion and counselor, humbly and gratefully we would acknowledge our dependence upon Thee, for always and everywhere we need Thee.

We need Thee in the morning years when life is carefree and full of adventure and hope. We need Thee when we are in the midway of our course and the burdens are heavy and responsibilities are great. We need Thee in the eventide of life when the shadows lengthen and there is only a little way to go.

Grant that in these perilous days when our pilgrimage is beset with so many hardships and difficulties we may have the glad assurance that the spiritual resources are adequate and available.

We pray that they may give us inward steadfastness in our struggle for peace and righteousness. May we be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might, for Thou art our God forever and ever and will be our guide even unto death.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1950

ALMIGHTY AND EVER-BLESSED GOD, who art too wise to err and too kind to injure, we pray that Thou wilt be present and favorable unto these Thy servants.

Grant Thy divine guidance, Thy fatherly benediction and the seal of Thy divine approval upon their decisions as they earnestly seek the welfare of our Nation and all mankind.

Help us to cleave with increasing tenacity of purpose and determination and devotion to those God-ordained ideals and principles which are eternally real and true.

May we daily take up with renewed faith and courage and indomitable will the great task of extending the frontiers of freedom and justice to the uttermost parts of the earth.

We pray that in all our longings for peace and in our conflicts with the forces of evil and darkness we may be supremely concerned about vindicating Thy righteousness and maintaining the honor and glory of Thy great and holy name.

Hear us for the sake of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1950

O THOU WHOSE WILL IS SOVEREIGN AND SUPREME, may we now render unto Thee the homage of our hearts and seek to bring our wills into harmony with Thy divine will.

We are daily praying for the dawning of that better day when humanity shall enter upon nobler and more magnanimous ways of living and when everything which estranges men and nations from one another shall be forever supplanted by the spirit of good will.

Grant that we may have the courage to attempt great ventures in brotherhood. May the members of the human family stand to one another in that same relationship of love and peace as Thou dost to each of them.

However desperate and dire our plight may seem to be, may we never be tempted to feel that all that is noble in our Christian civilization is at the mercy of the powers of darkness.

We pray that when anguish and fears grip our souls we may find our joy and strength in the glorious promise that "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee."

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1950

ALMIGHTY GOD, in this time of national emergency, life for all of us is taking on a new seriousness and a deeper earnestness for we are confronted by dangers which threaten to destroy our liberties.

We are beginning to realize that we are citizens of this great Nation, not merely to receive benefits and enjoy the blessings of freedom without hindrance but we must now defend and preserve them at any cost.

Grant that we may be loyal to the memory and tradition of our forefathers who cherished lofty ideals and whose spirit of sternness and sim-

plicity, of struggle and sacrifice, of faith and hope, shone brightly even in the darkest days.

We know that if we are derelict in our devotion or yield to despair we shall be traitors to the faithful of all ages, traitors to our fellow citizens, who are now fighting so valiantly, and traitors to our God.

We pray that we may take more seriously the matter of our personal loyalty to Thee, walking in the ways of righteousness and holding fast the faith that Thy divine purpose cannot be defeated.

Hear us in the name of our blessed Lord. Amen.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1950

O THOU WHO ART WILLING AND ABLE TO DO FOR US ABUNDANTLY above all that we can ask or think, we humbly confess that we are frequently so confused and bewildered in our search for the true, the beautiful, and the good.

Daily we are conscious of how unequal we are to our tasks and how much we need Thee. We know that we cannot find the right solution to our problems on the basis of our own finite wisdom.

When we think of man's inhumanity to man we are tempted to believe that many members of the human family have lost their capacity for kindly feelings toward one another.

Thou knowest how desperately mankind needs the regenerating presence and power of Thy divine spirit. This is our only hope for a better world wherein dwelleth righteousness and peace.

Grant that we may have the faith and the courage to believe in the regeneration and salvation of all the members of the human race.

Hear us in the name of the Christ of Christmas who became the Son of Man in order that men everywhere might become the sons of God. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1950

ALMIGHTY GOD, who art always seeking to inspire and sustain us with a vivid sense of Thy presence and power, we pray that this assurance may be for all of us a here-and-now experience.

Grant that the thought of Thy divine sovereignty may guard us against doubt and fear as we strive to hold at bay the forces of tyranny and aggression that would enslave us.

Help us to bring our lives consciously and continuously into harmony with what Thou dost desire and command. In all our plans and purposes may we be impelled by pure and unselfish motives.

Give us a clearer understanding of our duty, not as a heavy burden or a drudgery, but as a devotion to a great cause. May we be loyal partners with

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all who are giving themselves so valiantly in order to secure the blessings of freedom for our own and succeeding generations.

Lift us by Thy grace above all the hazards and hardships of time's happenings into the blessedness of Thine own eternal peace.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1950

O THOU BLESSED AND ETERNAL GOD, we thank Thee for the high and holy privilege of coming unto Thee through the old and familiar way of prayer.

Grant that in these perilous times we may not rely only upon the might and power of material resources, but may we seek to develop strength of spirit and faith with which we shall be prepared and able to cope with anything that the future may hold for us of suffering and sacrifice.

We are confident that no enemy from the outside can ever conquer us and that if defeat should overtake us it would be because of our inner failures and the spiritual weakness of out hearts.

Inspire us to cultivate the habit of daily prayer for we have the testimony of experience that if we pray in ordinary days we shall know how to pray with conquering power when we are beset by trials and tribulations, by moods of cowardice and fear, and by despondency and despair.

In Christ's name we bring our petitions. Amen.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1950

O THOU GREAT GOD OF ALL LOVE AND MERCY, we thank Thee for this hallowed and joyous Christmas season, commemorating the birth of our blessed Lord.

We are again calling to mind and pondering the oft-repeated beautiful story of the shepherds bowing in adoration and humility at the manger of the Christ Child and the story of the wise men following in the wake of natural piety and worshiping at the same shrine.

We rejoice that when there was no eye to pity and no arm to save them in the fullness of time Thou didst send Thy Son to be the Saviour of the world.

Grant that the Christ of prophecy and of history may become the Christ of experience. May there be in us and in the hearts of all mankind a new nativity of His spirit of peace and good will.

May this Christmas not only be a time of commemoration but of consecration when we shall pledge ourselves anew to every righteous endeavor to hasten that glorious day of prediction when every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that the Christ is the Lord to the glory of God.

Bless our beloved country, our homes, and all who are near and dear unto us. Wilt Thou give some special blessing and revelation of Thy sustaining presence and peace to our fellow citizens who are out on the fields of battle. May we daily send them our thoughts of love through the Christ of Christmas.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1950

ALMIGHTY GOD, our hearts are filled with an increasing sense of wonder and gratitude as we continue to meditate upon the glad tidings of the birth of the Saviour for whom the ages had been waiting and in whom we have the answer to our deepest needs.

Grant that the salvation and joy which He came to bring may be the blessed experience of all mankind. May men and nations everywhere accept and respond to those great ideals and principles of love and mercy, of truth and righteousness, which were realized completely in the life of our Lord.

When we are tempted to feel that the struggle for peace on earth and good will among men is futile may we find our courage and hope in the conquering love and power of the Christ of Christmas, whose name is Immanuel, God with us.

May the glory and praise be Thine for every and ever. Amen.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1950

O THOU WHO ART THE SAME YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND FOREVER and unchanging in Thy love and goodness, hitherto Thou hast blessed us and daily we have been the beneficiaries of Thy bountiful providence.

May we now render unto Thee the tribute of our heartfelt praise for Thou hast been our ever-present guide and companion and hast not withheld from us anything that was needful for our journey.

Grant that when we come to the closing hour of the old year we may be worthy of receiving the benediction which Thou dost bestow upon all who do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with the Lord.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 1951

O THOU WHO ART THE GOD OF ALL THE YEARS AND OF ALL GENERATIONS, grant that, having passed from the old year into the new year, we may forget what we ought not remember and remember that which we ought never forget.

We pray that daily our minds and hearts may be filled with lofty aspirations and inspired with noble endeavors. May we believe that we are here within the years to cultivate and achieve those qualities of character which are beyond the years and eternal.

We humbly confess that we do not know what the new year holds for us, but may we trust Thee and not be afraid. Enable us by Thy grace to receive our blessings with a grateful heart and meet our hardships and trials with an indomitable faith.

Help us to feel the urge and the dignity of being loyal partners with all who are striving to build a better world. May we never forfeit the right to merit Thy divine approbation by our failure to be obedient to Thy holy will.

Grant that the vision of peace on earth and good will among men may never fade, and may our strength and will to make it a blessed reality never fail.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, we pray that as we continue our journey into the new year, all the difficult problems of each day and all the adventures of the unknown tomorrows may be illumined and glorified with the light and power of the lofty ideals and principles of truth and righteousness.

May we daily walk in the ways of godliness and goodness, meeting out tasks and responsibilities with calmness and courage, with widsom and clear judgment, with faith and hope, and in faithfulness and in the fear of the Lord.

Grant that in our plans and efforts to withstand and conquer the evil forces of aggression and aggrandizement, we may never place our confidence solely in the primacy of human ingenuity, and in the might of our manpower and material resources, or in the help that our allies and the freedom-loving nations may be able and willing to give.

We pray that in these days of crisis and emergency when we are filled with a sense of our insecurity and inadequacy and fears and forebodings haunt our hearts, we may enter into an alliance and compact with the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, whose strength is invincible.

May the souls of God-fearing men and nations everywhere be aflame with a passion to bring in the day of peace and brotherhood.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

EIGHTY-SECOND CONGRESS

First Session

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1951

O THOU ETERNAL GOD, in this first meeting of our Eighty-second Congress, we are again reverently approaching Thy throne of grace and mercy, of majesty and power, through the old and familiar way of prayer which is never closed to those who come with a humble spirit and a contrite heart.

We thank Thee for our beloved country, conceived in sacrifice, dedicated to Thy glory, and consecrated to the service of all mankind. May we now prize our Nation more highly as we think of our fellow citizens out on the fields of battle defending our liberties to the utmost.

We pray that our President, our Speaker, and all the Members of this legislative body, who have been entrusted with the high vocation of leadership in the affairs of government, may be guided by Thy divine spirit in all their deliberations and decisions as they seek to lead struggling humanity out of the night of darkness into the radiant light of a better day.

Grant that daily we may enter into counsel with the God of all wisdom, holding our own desires and wishes in abeyance until Thou dost declare Thy will and performing our duties with a pure and steadfast devotion.

May it be the goal of all our aspirations and endeavors to magnify Thy great and holy name and to hasten the coming of that blessed day when peace shall be the glorious possession of all the members of the human family and they shall walk together in the spirit of the Prince of Peace.

Wilt Thou hear us as we bow in adoration and unite in offering unto Thee the prayer of our Lord and Saviour:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.

Amen.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 1951

O THOU WHO ART THE SUPREME INTELLIGENCE and the only source of all wisdom and strength for life's many strange and difficult adventures, make us daily more conscious of Thy greatness and goodness. We rejoice that with this assurance we need not be afraid to enter upon any new day, however freighted it may be with heavy burdens.

Grant that we may have a clear perception and understanding of that which is right and necessary and helpful and worth while.

May we be wise and strong and courageous enough to do faithfully and well whatever any occasion or circumstance or duty may demand.

Inspire and sustain us with the confident conviction that righteousness and truth shall prevail and that Thy divine will shall be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 1951

O THOU ETERNAL GOD, OUR FATHER, we rejoice that in Thee our baffled minds and burdened hearts may find shelter and safety, serenity and strength.

Grant that in all the difficult tasks and perplexing problems of each new day we may have the interpreting and guiding light of Thy divine spirit.

May we be numbered among the believing souls who are impervious to all thoughts and feelings of cynicism and fear, assured and confident that Thy holy will and purposes cannot be thwarted or defeated.

We pray that we may never accept and endure our hardships and trials in the spirit of sullen or passive resignation but may we be enabled by Thy grace to transform them into blessings, bringing us nearer unto Thee.

Inspire us with fidelity and diligence in our high vocation of lifting the life of humanity into the loftier altitudes of amity and peace. May we be true for there are those who trust us; may we be strong for there are heavy burdens to carry; may we be courageous for there is much to do and dare.

Hear us in the name of our blessed Lord. Amen.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1951

O THOU WHO ART THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE, wilt Thou now hear us as, in simplicity and sincerity, we offer unto Thee our penitential prayers.

We humbly and penitently confess that, as members of the family of God, we have not been heeding Thy voice when Thou didst say, "This is the way, walk ye therein."

Our own conscience tells us that we have often allowed materialism, as a habit of life, to take such a strong hold upon us.

The windows of our souls have become opaque and our vision of the higher values has become eclipsed by our ambition to gain for ourselves a vast accumulation of the world's goods and of material strength and power.

We have been misdirecting so much of our energy by striving feverishly for that which is not bread and laboring for that which can never satisfy.

We have neglected to keep in mind the great spiritual goals and objectives and have failed to see that the soul of all culture is the culture of the soul.

Grant us Thy pardoning grace and during this year may we venture forth eagerly and courageously upon the nobler ways of life. May we unite our wills and purposes with Thine in bringing in the day of peace.

Hear us in the name of our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 1951

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS GOD, whose divine love, wisdom, and power are the inspiration and strength of the God-fearing and the faithful, may we daily go forth courageously in the high adventure of building a finer civilization.

May we begin each day with a vital and radiant faith in the Lord, our God. Make us more eager to seek and more willing to accept the overtures of our Master's counsel and companionship.

Grant that our vision of peace on earth may be so clear and commanding that every lofty and holy aspiration within our souls shall respond with a fervent desire and determination to bring it to fulfillment.

We pray that these Thy servants may be guided by Thy spirit in some special way as they formulate the policies and administer the affairs of government and as they labor for a just and righteous solution of all the difficult problems in the areas of international relationship.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

MONDAY, JANUARY 15, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, in whom alone we can find our strength and hope, inspire us now with an earnest longing to lead humanity out of its desperate plight and moral agony into the glorious splendor of a new day.

Grant that we may have a greater faith in Thee and in the spiritual resources which Thou hast placed at our disposal, as we accept the challenge of this high calling. Give us courage as we strive to bring to fulfillment the vision of a social order wherein dwelleth righteousness and peace.

We pray that we may never lose heart or allow our hopes to change to doubt and despair. Help us to open widely the windows of our souls that we may see the dawning of that day when love and friendship, good will, and brotherhood shall take their rightful place in the life of all mankind.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1951

O THOU GOD OF INFINITE LOVE AND MERCY, who art always seeking to guide and direct us into the nobler ways of life, help us to interpret all Thy righteous commands and judgments as gracious invitations to follow the paths which Thou hast marked out for us.

Help us to see more clearly that Thou are not commanding or expecting our finite minds to comprehend fully Thy divine will and Thy dealings with us, but that Thou art calling us to trust and obey Thee faithfully.

We pray that Thou wilt help us to understand that the measure of our faith and obedience is the measure of our wisdom and strength and peace.

Inspire us daily with a larger faith and a deepening assurance that there is no crisis which we cannot face, and no hardship which we cannot endure when our minds and hearts are stayed on Thee and when we place our hands in Thine.

In Christ's name we bring our petitions. Amen.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 1951

O THOU WHO ART THE ONE ABIDING CERTAINTY in the midst of all the mutations of time and the only ultimate source of our confidence as we face perplexing circumstances, Thou knowest how often fear and doubt rob us of peace and make us apprehensive of the future.

Grant that our baffled minds and fear-strickened hearts may be inspired with the cardinal virtues of faith and hope as we wait upon Thee and continue faithfully and heroically to champion the cause of righteousness and justice.

We pray that our devotion and moral courage may be kindled and strengthened with a clear vision of that blessed time when, through our trust in Thee and our own best endeavors, we shall achieve life's noblest goals of peace and good will.

May the day soon dawn when the selfish ambitions, which enslave the souls of men and nations, shall be forever supplanted by the Christlike and magnanimous spirit of brotherhood and friendship.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 1951

O THOU HOLY SPIRIT OF THE ETERNAL GOD, may this moment of prayer be one of reverence and sincerity, of gladness and gratitude, of humility and penitence, as we unburden our souls to Thy listening ear and understanding heart.

Thou knowest that daily we need the blessings of insight and inspiration, of hope and courage, which Thou alone canst give. Fill our minds with wisdom, our hearts with love, and our hands with usefulness.

Grant that for our war-torn and divided world we may discover those unities which underlie all diversities.

Enable us by Thy grace to have a clearer vision and a more vivid sense of the high and helpful things which we may do together in the building of a nobler civilization.

We pray that, above all, our spirits may be brought into harmony with Thy spirit and may we walk in Thy counsel and may we delight ourselves in the law of the Lord.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, grant that daily we may come to the sacrament of public service with clear minds and courageous hearts and with an eager desire to perform all our tasks in ways which are well pleasing unto Thee.

When we are anxious may we find our peace in the thought of Thy love and power; when we are harassed with doubt may our faith be strengthened, and may we heed Thy voice as Thou dost say: "This is the way, walk ye therein."

Imbue us with a willing obedience to Thy laws and a joyous harmony with Thy divine purposes. May we never surrender our hope and trust in Thee.

Inspire us with the glorious faith which sees, even in the confusion of the darkest day, the foregleams of that greater and better time when the kingdoms of this earth shall become the kingdom of our Lord.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 1951

O THOU WHO ART THE UNSHAKEN FOUNDATION of all our hopes and the unfailing source of all our blessings, grant that through the way of prayer we may enter into a deepening experience of Thy presence, peace, and power.

We rejoice that Thou art reminding us continually of the eternal truth that "they who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall

mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

Inspire us during this day with a profounder sense of our individual responsibility in the building of a finer social order. Help us to feel that we never see life in the radiant splendor of its greatness and dignity until we interpret its meaning and value in terms of service for God and our fellow men.

We thank Thee for the high and holy privilege and vocation of being coworkers in establishing peace on earth and good will among men.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

MONDAY, JANUARY 29, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, whose all-pervading presence is our shield in the stillness of the night and our strength in the struggles of each new day, we rejoice that Thy blessings are abundantly adequate for our many needs.

Grant that this moment of communion with Thy spirit may be for each of us a cleansing of heart and a consecration of purpose to serve Thee faithfully and to minister to the welfare of all mankind.

Show us how we may lift the shadows of fear and sorrow from every darkened and burdened land, enlarge our faith in the moral and spiritual forces, and may we never lose the vision of a lasting world peace.

We pray that daily we may include and remember in our prayers our fellow citizens who are out on the far-away battlefields. Make us more truly worthy of their sacrifices as they struggle to safeguard our liberties. We are sending them our thoughts of love through Thee.

Hear us in the name of the Captain of our Salvation. Amen.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30, 1951

O THOU GREAT GOD OF ALL OUR DAYS AND YEARS, by whose mercies we are spared and by whose power we are sustained, we thank Thee for this day so significant in the life of our highly esteemed and dearly beloved Speaker whom we delight to honor and upon whom we are bestowing the diadem of our heartfelt praise and affection of his many years for outstanding service and achievement.

We believe in no man's infallibility of wisdom and judgment but we rejoice with one another as we contemplate the glorious privilege of walking and working with one of our fellow citizens whose integrity of character, lofty idealism, devotion to duty, and humility of spirit inspire us with confidence and courage as we also seek to serve our God, our country, and all mankind.

Grant that his own heart may be filled with joy and peace as he continues to accept the challenge of tasks which demand the consecration of his noblest manhood. We pray that at the close of each day he may receive the benediction which Thou dost give unto the faithful.

In the midst of our rejoicing we would pause to pay tribute to the Christian life and character of one of our associates whose spirit Thou has called from among us to dwell with Thee in heavenly blessedness. Grant unto the members of his bereaved family the consolation of Thy grace.

To Thy name we ascribe all the praise for the joys which cheer us and the trials which teach us to put our trust in Thee. Amen.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast blessed our beloved country so abundantly, we thank Thee for our Christian democracy which we have received and are enjoying as a priceless heritage.

We pray that the voice of America may bear clear and convincing testimony to men and nations everywhere that our democracy is not a self-centered, provincial, and political ideal but a dynamic spiritual principle and a way of life, bringing the richest blessings of freedom and opportunity to all mankind.

Grant that as fellow citizens we may feel that America's great hour has come when we must revive and strengthen the moral and spiritual foundation and qualities of our Republic if we are to survive and be an effective force in building a nobler civilization.

May all who hold positions of leadership and responsibility in church and state, during these days of world crisis, daily have the guidance of Thy spirit in their deliberations and decisions as they seek to do the will of God.

Hear us in the name of our blessed Lord. Amen.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1951

O THOU WHO ART THE GUIDING WISDOM in the life of men and of nations, we pray that we may be endowed daily with understanding and insight to discern and interpret rightly the eternal will of God.

May the assurance of Thy continuing grace and favor inspire us to search diligently and faithfully for the right solution to all our national and international problems.

Give us a more vivid sense of our social responsibility. May we be loyal partners with men everywhere in the difficult task of establishing the kingdom of brotherhood upon the earth.

Encourage us to carry on heroically and hopefully in the glorious adventure of bringing in the day of peace and good will.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1951

O THOU INFINITE AND ETERNAL GOD, we rejoice that in the annals of our national history we have the record of the life and character of many God-fearing souls who served their generation according to Thy holy will and of whose fame there will be no end.

We thank Thee for this day when we are privileged to call to mind and pay tribute to the memory of a great patriot in whose heart the fires of faith in God and man burned brightly and who placed his supreme confidence in the sanctity and abiding reality of the moral and spiritual order.

Grant that our beloved country may continue to have as its glorious aspiration and far-flung goal the coming of that blessed time when men everywhere shall walk together, unitedly and joyously, as brothers, on the highways of freedom and peace.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1951

ALMIGHTY AND ETERNAL GOD, may this Lenten season upon which we have entered daily become richer and more glorious in the culture and deepening of our spiritual life.

Cleanse our souls of all unrighteousness as we give ourselves to meditation and quiet waiting upon Thee in the spirit of contrition and confession, of penitence and humility.

Grant that by self-examination and self-discipline our wills may be strengthened to gain the mastery over every insurgent impulse, every inordinate desire, and every self-indulgent habit of life.

May each day of this blessed season be a veritable gateway through which we shall enter joyously into the spiritual realities of the more abundant life and receive the benediction of Thy grace and peace.

Hear us in the name of our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1951

O THOU PRAYER-HEARING AND PRAYER-ANSWERING GOD, grant that in this moment of sacred communion with Thy spirit we may have an inspiring and uplifting sense of Thy greatness and goodness.

Help us to believe more sincerely and confidently in the efficacy of prayer, not as a power to take away our perplexing problems and difficulties, our trials and tribulations, but as a power girding our minds and hearts to meet them courageously and victoriously.

We humbly confess that when we forget Thee and lose sight of Thee, then we become anxious and are haunted with fears which rob us of all

peace. We pray that Thou wilt enlarge and strengthen our faith in Thee and in the ultimate triumph of the true, the good, and the right.

May we continue to pray and labor for that blessed time when all the destructive and diabolical motives of hatred and selfishness which fill the hearts of men shall be supplanted by the nobler feelings of kindness and compassion and an eagerness to bear one another's burdens.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1951

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, grant that in this Brotherhood Week upon which we have entered we may resolve to covet and cultivate more earnestly the spirit of consideration and kindness toward all mankind.

May we be humbly grateful for the ability and the many opportunities, which are continually coming to us, to have a share in relieving the sufferings and hardships of the needy members of the human family.

Make us eager to extend the hand of helpfulness to the weary and heavy-laden and to speak the word of cheer to the sorrowing and lonely which will enable them to maintain their faith and their courage.

May we daily go forth on the journey of life with joy and hope, daring to believe in a future of great blessedness when men and nations everywhere shall live as brothers on the high levels of peace and good will.

Hear us in the name of our blessed Lord. Amen.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1951

Mr. Speaker, we do not have the text of the first prayer offered on September 7, 1774, in the Continental Congress to which George Washington was a Delegate.

The prayer which I would like to use today is, however, the first of which we have any record in the history of that Congress. It was offered by the first Chaplain, the Reverend Jacob Duché, in July 1776, shortly after the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

"O LORD OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, high and mighty King of Kings, Lord of Lords, who dost from Thy throne behold all the dwellers upon earth, and reignest with power supreme and uncontrolled over all kingdoms, empires, and governments—look down in mercy, we beseech Thee, upon these American States, who have fled to Thee from the rod of the oppressor and thrown themselves upon Thy gracious protection, desiring to be henceforth dependent only upon Thee. To Thee have they appealed for the righteousness of their cause. To Thee do they now look up for that countenance and support which Thou alone canst give. Take them, therefore,

Heavenly Father, under Thy nurturing care. Give them wisdom in counsel and valor in the field. Defeat the malicious designs of our cruel adversaries. Convince them of the unrighteousness of their cause, and if they still persist in their sanguinary purposes, O let the voice of Thine own unerring justice, sounding in their hearts, constrain them to drop their weapons of war from their unnerved hands in the day of battle.

"Be Thou present, O Lord of wisdom, and direct the councils of this honorable assembly. Enable them to settle things upon the best and surest foundation, that the scene of blood may speedily be closed; that order, harmony, and peace may effectually be restored, and truth and justice, religion and piety prevail and flourish amongst Thy people.

"Preserve the health of their bodies and the vigor of their minds. Shower down upon them and the millions they here represent such temporal blessings as Thou seest expedient for them in this world, and crown them with everlasting glory in the world to come. All this we ask in the name and through the merits of Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Saviour. Amen."

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1951

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS GOD, we have again entered upon a new day with its many tasks and responsibilities which challenge the best that is within us of fidelity and devotion, of courage and spiritual capacity.

We rejoice that Thou art continually seeking to stir and inspire us with a vision of that glorious future when righteousness and justice shall be triumphant and the spirit of man shall be too strong to be chained and too large to be imprisoned by anything that degrades and defiles.

Grant that our vision of that blessed future may never become eclipsed or extinguished by feelings of doubt and despair. We pray that in the assurance of Thy wisdom and power and in the splendor and radiancy of that vision we may find our cheer and hope for even the darkest day and the most difficult problem.

Hear us in the name of the Captain of our Salvation. Amen.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, in this moment of worship we are offering unto Thee the adoration of our hearts for the innumerable blessings which Thou art always bestowing upon us.

Make us more worthy of our blessings and more eager to share them with all Thy needy children. Inspire and quicken us with the glad assurance that no needed blessing wilt Thou withhold from us if we do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with the Lord.

We pray that all who have been entrusted with positions of leadership in the life of our Republic may be given the blessing of Thy guiding and sus-

taining presence as they seek to legislate and administer the affairs of government in the many difficult spheres of national and international relationships.

May they be God-filled, God-controlled, and God-directed men and women; wise in counsel and understanding; clear-minded and farsighted in devising plans and policies that are just and righteous; steadfast in loyalty to the lofty principles of democracy; courageous in championing the cause of freedom and peace; and humble in spirit.

In Christ's name we bring our petitions. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1951

O THOU WHO ART THE GREAT BENEFACTOR AND SOURCE of all our blessings grant that as we have been made the heirs and beneficiaries of a glorious past so we may seek to be the faithful trustees and stewards for an even more glorious future.

Enable us by Thy grace to meet the experiences of each new day of duty and responsibility, of trial and tribulation, of perplexity and emergency, of adversity and hardship with a faith that never falters, a hope that defies despair, and a love that is willing to suffer and sacrifice.

We pray that the time may not be far distant when the thoughts and feelings and impulses of the human heart shall be brought under the spell of Thy divine spirit and be touched to finer issues for we know that the better world for which we are hoping and laboring cannot be built by the might and power of man but only by Thy spirit.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

MONDAY, MARCH 5, 1951

O THOU ETERNAL SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD, inspire us during this day with a vivid assurance of Thy divine guidance as we seek to find the right solution to life's varied and difficult problems.

We pray that we may be endowed with that inner composure which lies beyond the reach of any untoward circumstance and that dauntless courage which fears man so little because it fears God so much.

Grant that through the discipline of hard experience we may learn true lessons of patience and hope which alone can keep us loyal and faithful.

Fill our minds and hearts with a passionate longing for righteousness and justice and for the coming of that day when the world will be forever free from the curse of war and nations shall labor together to build the kingdom of peace and brotherhood.

Humbly we beseech Thee to hear us through the merits of our blessed Lord. Amen.

TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, we again feel the need of coming unto Thee in prayer in order that our spirits may be renewed and strengthened for the duties and responsibilities of this day.

We humbly confess that we know not how to maintain our courage and poise amid the chaos, the confusion, the uncertainties, and the conflicting currents of our time.

Grant that we may never yield to defeatism and despair or allow our energies to be weakened and dissipated by fears and anxieties.

Give us the unfaltering confidence that there is a spiritual power in the universe which is working for righteousness and justice however seemingly frail and feeble our own human efforts.

May we feel the lift of the upward and far-away view for every nearby task and believe that all our God-inspired hopes and visions of a nobler civilization will some day be a blessed reality.

Hear us in the name of the Christ who is the world's hope and peace. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 1951

O THOU WHO ART THE COUNSELOR AND COMPANION of our souls we rejoice that daily we may bring our fears and hopes and longings to Thy listening ear and understanding heart.

Grant that in all our duties we may have Thy help; in all our temptations Thy restraining and conquering power; in all our dangers Thy protection; in all our doubts and uncertainties Thy guiding presence; in all our sorrows and trials Thy sustaining grace; in all our sins Thy forgiveness.

We pray that we may appreciate more fully that Thou hast placed at our disposal the inexhaustible resources of Thy grace and that no blessing wilt Thou withhold from us if we walk uprightly.

Show us how we may strengthen the ties of kinship that make us members of the great family of which Thou art the wise and loving Father. May we always manifest toward one another the mind and mood, the loyalty and devotion, the encouragement and helpfulness of our blessed Lord who went about doing good.

Hear us in His name. Amen.

THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, who art our light in darkness and our strength in times of trouble, inspire us now with an earnest desire to know Thee more intimately, to do Thy will more eagerly, and to serve Thee and our generation more worthily and faithfully.

Thou knowest, O God, that we need divine wisdom as we seek to find the right solution to our many difficult problems. Grant that daily we may place our hands in Thine and heed Thy voice as Thou dost say, "This is the way, walk ye therein," for Thy ways are ways of pleasantness and Thy paths are the paths of peace.

Deepen within us the glad assurance that when we have conscientiously and honestly tried to do our best for Thee and our fellow men, then we may confidently leave the issues in Thy hands which are stronger than our own.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

MONDAY, MARCH 12, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, may this new week upon which we have entered be glorious in the realization of the guidance of Thy divine spirit and in the blessedness of human friendship and in sacrificial service for needy humanity.

Grant that daily we may exercise and manifest a more filial trust in Thee and a more fraternal attitude toward all mankind. We penitently confess that we are frequently so faithless and so lacking in the spirit of brotherhood.

Inspire us with the joyous conviction that we are living and laboring for that which our Master declared to be supremely important when we seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness.

May our vision of that kingdom never be eclipsed by doubt or despair. We rejoice that when we think of Thy greatness and goodness then we dare to believe that Thy kingdom and all we have ever dreamed of—truth and justice and love—will someday prevail as a blessed reality.

Hear us in the name of the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords. Amen.

TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 1951

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS GOD, who in Thy great goodness art able and willing to supply all our needs, inspire us always to receive our blessings humbly and gratefully.

Grant that in these perilous times, when evil tidings make us pensive and often smite us with fear, we may feel Thy nearness unto us and the presence of Thy spirit within us.

We pray that Thou wilt emancipate our beloved country from all those degenerating and demoralizing forces and influences within our national

life which are seeking to undermine the strength and corrupt the spirit of our Republic.

May we be a united people, earnestly striving to break down all the barriers which divide, in order that in the fellowship of good will and brotherhood and in loyalty to high and holy principles we may build a nobler civilization.

May our President, our Speaker, and all our legislators meet the duties and demands of their high vocation with intelligence and with faith and courage.

In all their deliberations and decisions may they prove to be men and women of vision with a clear understanding of our country's needs, and a discriminating perception of life's values. May they always be eager to seek and appropriate the eternal wisdom and counsel of God.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, grant that we may carry with us into this new day all that was noble and glorious in our yesterdays.

May each day be filled with a vast accumulation of cheerful recollection and happy memories of work well done.

We pray that when our minds are inspired with the joy of elevating thoughts and with visions of righteousness and of the good potential in man we may have the grace and the wisdom to cultivate them and translate them into the everyday life of the world.

Grant that our democracy, with its sense of reverence for God and human personality, may be built and rest upon such a strong and sure foundation that none of the profanities and the inhuman and godless influences of a heedless and heathen world can ever disturb or destroy it.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

MONDAY, MARCH 19, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, who art the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, we have entered humbly and reverently upon Holy Week, commemorating days whose sacred meaning our finite minds can only faintly comprehend.

Grant that we may seek to continue the triumphal march of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords who wore no crown, carried no scepter or sword, and displayed none of the emblems and symbols of temporal authority, but who had in His heart the spirit of sacrificial love and in His hand the palm branches of peace and good will.

We pray that we may accept His regal claims and have the courage to believe that someday all mankind will be lifted to higher levels of character and conduct through the changing and conquering power of the faith, hope, and love of our crucified Saviour and risen Lord.

Hear us in His name. Amen.

TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 1951

ETERNAL GOD, OUR FATHER, grant that during this day our souls may be filled with those longings and aspirations which are well pleasing unto Thee and which Thou dost delight to satisfy.

Thou art daily calling us to accept Thy counsel and to make Thy ways our ways but we penitently confess that we are frequently so heedless and indifferent and go forth blindly and proudly on our own willful course.

We pray that in the areas of human relationships our hearts may be more sensitive and our hands more responsive to the needs of humanity.

Forgive us for appropriating and enjoying our blessings without much concern for those who have so little and who are deprived of these blessings whether because of the selfishness of man or their own limitations.

May our lives be helpful in hastening the coming of the time when every need shall be supplied and happiness and peace shall be the glorious possession of all mankind.

Hear us in the name of the Christ who during Holy Week gave Himself so sacrificially. Amen.

THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, whose amazing love we cannot fathom, we are again thanking Thee for this Holy Week, commemorating the sufferings and death of our blessed Lord.

We rejoice that when there was no eye to pity, no heart to comfort, and no arm to save, then in the fullness of time Thou didst send Thine only begotten Son and on Good Friday He gave His life upon the cross as a willing and acceptable sacrifice for the salvation of the world.

May we be more eager to share in His glorious mission of releasing the hidden splendor of humanity, emancipating and saving it from everything that defiles and degrades and mars the image of God in which man has been created.

We pray that on Easter Sunday we also may be raised into newness of life and be inspired to build a finer and nobler civilization in which there shall be peace and good will among men.

Hear us in Christ's name and be with us while we are absent from one another. Amen.

MONDAY, APRIL 2, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, by whose mercies we are spared and by whose power we are sustained, we are coming unto Thee in this sacred moment of prayer encouraged by many blessed memories and experiences of Thy great love and goodness, transcending all our needs and our unworthiness.

Grant that as we again enter upon tasks and responsibilities, which are far beyond our own finite wisdom and strength, and the fallibility of human judgment, we may have our minds illumined with a new insight into the riches of Thy grace and our hearts consecrated to a new obedience to Thy divine will.

Inspire us with a stronger faith in Thee and in the power of moral and of spiritual principle. Give us a vision of that blessed time when justice and righteousness shall find a clearer expression in our social, industrial, and political life and when civilization shall be glorified with the spirit of good will and all the nations of the earth shall walk together in the paths of peace.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 1951

O THOU WHO ART THE COMPANION AND COUNSELOR OF ALL MANKIND, we rejoice that in our times of doubt and uncertainty and greatest need we may unburden ourselves to Thy listening ear and understanding heart.

We humbly confess that we are often afraid to look into the future for it appears so dark and full of mystery. Help us to see the rainbow promise of Thy grace and go forth with a grateful acknowledgement that hitherto Thou hast blessed us and with a continuing faith that in all our days Thy presence will be our joy and strength.

Grant that in communion with Thee we may have those gracious experiences which always come to all who truly pray. May we also find poise and peace for our restless spirits, enlightenment for our confused and troubled minds, guidance in the midst of disturbing circumstances, and inspiration and hope for our noblest plans and purposes.

In Christ's name we offer our prayer. Amen.

TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 1951

ALMIGHTY AND EVER-BLESSED GOD, grant that during this day we may have a new and worthier appreciation of life and all our blessings, for we penitently confess that we are frequently guilty of the sacrilege of an ungrateful and indifferent spirit.

Inspire our minds and hearts with thoughts of Thy greatness and the inexhaustible riches of Thy grace as we strive to build a finer social order and a nobler civilization.

We pray that when we are discouraged and are tempted to yield to despair we may hear Thy voice awakening within us the glad assurance that Thy divine purposes can never be defeated

May our beloved country continue to be a strong link in the chain of peace-loving and peace-making nations who are daily praying and laboring for the fulfillment of that blessed day of prediction when the black demon of war shall be forever destroyed.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, before whom the generations of men pass in triumph or in defeat and who doth preside over the destinies of all mankind, grant that in these troublous times we may seek Thy divine wisdom which is always available for those who truly desire to do Thy will.

We know not what to pray for but we are confident that Thou canst supply all our needs. Give us the humble spirit and the contrite heart.

May our beloved country ever be in the vanguard of those nations who are seeking to bring in the blessed day of peace and good will among men.

Give us the spirit of understanding and of harmony and may it be the goal of all our aspirations to build a nobler civilization.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 1951

O THOU WHO ART OUR REFUGE AND STRENGTH IN TIMES OF TROUBLE, grant that in these trying and tragic days we may be inspired with a greater faith in the moral order of the universe, a greater faith in the power of righteousness, and above all a greater faith in Thee.

We are confident that our beloved country will never go down in defeat or lose its national identity, if, as citizens of this great Republic and leaders in the affairs of church and state, we continue to turn our minds and hearts toward Thee and toward that which is true and just and right.

We pray that as a Nation we may be delivered from all enemies which assail us from within as well as without. Deliver us from those immoralities and those evils of crime and graft and corruption which are a blight upon our national character and a disgrace to our body politic.

May our domestic and foreign policies be Christian policies. Guard us against all hasty, intemperate, and ill-considered words and actions. May the spirit of unity prevail in all the various fields of national and international endeavor as we strive for peace on earth.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

MONDAY, APRIL 16, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, who art the Supreme Counselor of the minds of men and the companion of their hearts, we pray that all who hold positions of trust and leadership in the affairs of government may walk humbly with the Lord.

May they be men and women of lofty ideals and principles and enable them to legislate wisely and cooperatively for the common good and welfare of all mankind.

Grant that they may act worthily in every duty and be guided by Thy spirit in council and decision as they share in the grave responsibility of leading our Nation in the path of righteousness and justice during these days of trial and tribulation.

May the citizens of our Republic prize more highly the privileges of self-government and the blessings of being a free people. Make us more truly grateful and worthy of the tremendous sacrifices that are being made by our fellow citizens in the armed services of our country who are defending our liberties.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 1951

O THOU ETERNAL GOD, THE CREATOR AND SOURCE OF LIFE AND LIGHT, we thank Thee for all the beautiful and marvelous revelations and changes which we are witnessing in the world of nature during this glorious spring season.

We pray that these changes may be inner as well as outer experiences, inspiring us to have our lives rooted and grounded in Thy divine life in order that we may grow in moral and spiritual stature, in beauty and strength of character, and in obedience to Thy divine laws.

May the mysteries and splendors of nature, upon which we are looking with wonder and amazement, challenge and stir us with a rebirth of spiritual desires and a renewed spirit of fidelity and devotion to life's loftiest aspirations and noblest principles.

Hear us in the name of our blessed Lord whom poets and prophets have called the Lily of the Valley, the Rose of Sharon, the Bright and Morning Star. Amen.

THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, as we bow together in the followship of prayer, we are humbly beseeching Thee that in these strange days with all their mingled experiences of hope and fear, of joy and sorrow, of triumph and defeat, we may be men and women of vision and valor, of confidence and courage.

Grant that in facing tasks and problems of unparalleled magnitude, which are far beyond our own fallible and finite wisdom, we may be more eager to appropriate that divine unerring counsel and guidance which Thou hast placed at our disposal.

Enable us by Thy grace to accept the challenge of every noble adventure and every lofty endeavor in the spirit of unity and with a resolute faith and may that unity and faith never become eclipsed by discord, doubt, or despair.

Show us how we may release the hidden splendors of humanity and bring to fulfillment and fruition the hopes and longings of mankind for freedom and peace.

May the virtues and principles of love and good will, of justice, and righteousness be the foundation on which we are seeking to build a more glorious Nation and a better world.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 1951

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, under whose canopy of grace and goodness we dwell and whose love and care overshadow and surround all our days, grant that daily we may meet our duties with greater clarity of insight and a more vigorous loyalty.

We penitently confess that many noble tasks and causes, which need our allegiance and wholehearted support, often languish and fail of achievement because of our listlessness and complacency and our lack of conviction, consecration, and courage.

Forgive us for being at times so cynical and allowing ourselves to feel that we are the victims of a conspiracy, of fearful and fateful circumstances, and that the lofty aspirations, which we cherish, are hopelessly visionary.

Inspire us with that unity of spirit and understanding which recognizes individual differences but which subordinates them to the supreme and common goal of establishing peace on earth and the building of a finer social order in which there will be, among all the members of the human family, a mutual respect for personal and social rights and obligations.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, grant that during this day we may sense the privilege and responsibility of meeting the challenge of each new opportunity for service to Thee and our fellow men.

We are bringing unto Thee our many needs, beseeching Thee that our souls may be cleansed and purified and that all our motives and purposes may be ennobled and redirected to loftier ends.

Lift us by Thy grace to higher levels of faith in Thy guiding and sustaining presence and may we covet more sincerely the benediction which Thou dost bestow upon the God fearing and the faithful.

Kindle within us the light that shone in the minds and hearts of saints and sages, of heroes and patriots who walked the highways of righteousness and served their generation courageously and loyally.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

MONDAY, APRIL 30, 1951

ETERNAL GOD, OUR FATHER, who art always mindful of our needs, we rejoice that in our days of confusion and perplexity Thou art our guide and counselor; in our periods of trial and tribulation Thou art our refuge and strength; and in our times of loneliness and sorrow Thou art companion and comforter.

We pray that these assurances and the abundance of our blessings may never fill us with a sense of independence and self-complacency or make us supercilious and selfishly indifferent to the desperate struggles of others.

Inspire us with an eager longing to relieve the burdens of all mankind and to dedicate ourselves more earnestly to the glorious task of laying the foundation for a better world.

We thank Thee for the Christian life and character of Thy servant who labored here so conscientiously and devotedly in obedience to the demands and responsibilities of his high vocation. Grant unto the broken and sorrowing hearts of the members of his bereaved family the healing touch of Thy divine love and the consolation of Thy grace. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

TUESDAY, MAY 1, 1951

INFINITE AND ETERNAL GOD, who art the light of all that is true, the strength of all that is good, and the inspiration of all that is beautiful, may our souls in these moments of prayer be kindled with a greater passion for righteousness and justice.

Establish and confirm within us the virtues of integrity and fidelity and may no temptation or sinister influence undermine our character and cause us to break faith with Thee and our fellow men and our own better self.

We pray that our minds and hearts may be impervious to all those ambitions and aspirations for personal aggrandizement and glory which are alien to the noble ideals and principles of our blessed Lord.

Grant that daily our conduct may authenticate and bear witness to the reality of His spirit and may the day be hastened when His lofty idealism shall become regnant in the life of all mankind.

May Thy name be glorified. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, as we continue to go forth in the hours of this new day, grant that we may meet all our various experiences and opportunities for service with a pure and steadfast devotion.

We pray that Thou wilt take our confused and groping minds and transform them into centers of light and power as we seek to solve the difficult problems of struggling humanity.

Show us how we may help to cultivate and bring to fruition those finer moral and spiritual aspirations and values which Thou hast planted within the soul of man.

May discouragement, doubt, and defeatism be supplanted by the indomitable and adventurous spirit of courage and hope.

Inspire us with a sincere desire to incarnate and manifest the ideals and principles of the Prince of Peace in whose life we find the clear and commanding revelation of our duty toward Thee and our fellow men.

Hear us in His name. Amen.

THURSDAY, MAY 3, 1951

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS GOD, who art the source of our material and spiritual blessings, grant that daily we may be strengthened within in order that we may cope victoriously with all circumstances and conditions without no matter how trying and difficult they may be.

We thank Thee for the priceless principles of our democracy, the authority of conscience, the sovereignty of the people, the equality of all men, and many others which we have received as a glorious heritage.

Make us more eager and able to retain these principles and to safeguard them against all enemies whether within or outside the borders of our beloved country.

May our chosen representatives and all our citizens discharge their duties intelligently and faithfully, fill us with desires to widen the horizons of our sympathy and understanding and deepen within the heart of humanity, the spirit of good will and brotherhood.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

FRIDAY, MAY 4, 1951

ALMIGHTY AND EVER-GRACIOUS GOD, OUR FATHER, may this moment of worship inspire us with a more filial trust in Thee and a more fraternal attitude toward all mankind.

Grant that we may be lovers of righteousness, walking humbly before Thee and seeking earnestly to do Thy will more perfectly.

In the sphere of human relationships may we always act like Christian brothers and neighbors, manifesting the spirit of good will and encouragement and extending the hand of helpfulness to all who are bearing heavy burdens.

Daily we are bringing unto Thee the difficult problems of our own country and the desperate needs of a world torn asunder and riven by the storms of hatred and war.

We pray that our President, our Speaker, and all who legislate in the affairs of government may be endowed with wisdom and courage as they strive to find the way to a just and an enduring peace.

In Christ's name we penitently offer our petition. Amen.

MONDAY, MAY 7, 1951

O THOU WHO ART THE SOURCE AND INSPIRATION of everything that is high and holy we pray that we may be more keenly aware of Thy presence and power as we enter upon this new week.

Grant unto us that strength and serenity, that faith and fortitude of mind and heart which we need as we accept the challenge of imperishable ideals and principles.

We pray that we may be a united people and have a clearer vision and appreciation of the multiplied power which we shall experience through our union in service for our beloved country.

Make us tireless in our efforts and unrelenting in our hope of the coming of that day when justice and righteousness and peace shall be established upon the earth.

Hear us in the name of our blessed Lord whose supreme purpose and greatest joy was to do Thy holy will. Amen.

TUESDAY, MAY 8, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, grant that daily we may aspire and strive to live on the plane of high personal morality and do all in our power to lift and lead suffering and struggling humanity into nobler ways of living

Show us how we may combat and conquer those evils of hatred and prejudice and ill will in our own hearts and in the social order that hinder and frustrate the glorious purposes which Thou hast for us and all mankind.

May we continue to pray fervently and labor earnestly for the dawning of that brighter day when every selfish passion and every thought of personal aggrandizement shall be silenced and the hearts of men shall go out to one another in the spirit of good will.

Help us to believe that there are no problems, individual or social, national or international, so dark and terrible which men and nations cannot solve if they only will to solve them and only will to cultivate and manifest the finer spirit of brotherhood and justice and peace.

We thank Thee for the Christian life and character of Thy servant who walked in and out among us and who sought to serve his generation according to Thy divine will. May we rejoice in the glad assurance that his spirit now dwells in heavenly blessedness, forever with the Lord. We are sending unto the members of his bereaved family our love and sympathy through the God of all consolation.

Here us in Christ's name. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, 1951

O THOU ETERNAL GOD, OUR FATHER, we rejoice that in our moments of prayer we may bring unto Thee our deepest longings and unburden ourselves to Thy listening ear and understanding heart.

Grant that we may be filled with a passionate yearning for a better and more brotherly world, a world in which all of man's God-given resources and energies shall be devoted and dedicated to Thy glory and the glorious task of developing and enriching the life of humanity.

Inspire us with an alertness and an insight that discerns and a willingness that gladly accepts the many opportunities for noble service which are continually coming to us.

We pray that the time may be hastened when the spirit of the Prince of Peace shall become regnant in the life of men and nations everywhere.

To Thy name we ascribe all the praise. Amen.

THURSDAY, MAY 10, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, in whom our fathers trusted and who bequeathed to us the rich heritage of a strong faith, make us daily more sensitive to Thy will and more obedient to Thy will.

May our faith be equal to the perilous times in which we are living and may we be loyal partners with all who are engaged in the difficult task of establishing Thy kingdom of peace on this earth.

Grant that we may have the courage to believe that all things will work together for our good if we love Thee. May we be confident that the day is coming when Thy promises shall be fulfilled and men and nations shall walk together on the highways of brotherhood and good will.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

MONDAY, MAY 14, 1951

ALMIGHTY AND EVER-BLESSED GOD, we thank Thee for Thy gracious and beneficent plan of home and family life which Thou art continually seeking to hallow with Thy presence.

We rejoice in the privilege and blessedness which was ours to observe a day dedicated both to the sacred memory of mothers no longer with us in the flesh and to the glorious ministry of mothers who are still with us to share their life and their love.

We are grateful for that sacrificial mother love which surrounded and cared for us long before we knew it and for that kindness and tenderness which always deemed us better than we are.

Humbly and penitently we confess that we have not kept inviolate those ideals of nobility of character which our mothers nourished within our hearts and that we have not lived up to the pride and hope which shone in their eyes.

Grant that Mother's Day may have been for all of us not only a time of commemoration but of consecration, and may its sacred significance abide with us as a blessed influence.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

TUESDAY, MAY 15, 1951

O THOU INFINITE AND ETERNAL GOD, who hast entrusted us with a high vocation, grant that in these strange and perilous days we may discharge our duties and responsibilities faithfully and with a pure and steadfast devotion.

We are humbly conscious of our own frailty and inadequacy but we know that in Thy divine wisdom and mercy Thou art able and willing to use us even to the limit of our meager capacities and abilities.

May we daily be numbered among all who are seeking to establish Thy kingdom of peace upon this earth. May the day be hastened when Thy promises shall be gloriously fulfilled.

To Thy name we ascribe all the praise. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 1951

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS GOD, who art found by those who truly seek Thee, known by those who love, and seen by all whose hearts are pure, grant that daily we may be numbered among the seekers and finders of God, seeking and finding Thee here and everywhere.

May the words of our mouth, the meditations of our heart, and the work of our hands be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, our strength and our Redeemer. Amen.

Memorial Services

INVOCATION

ETERNAL GOD, OUR FATHER, whose heart always opens with love in response to our many needs, in the life of each of us there are times and experiences when all our feelings seem to impose silence.

We thank Thee for the joys which cheer us and for the trials which teach us to put our trust in Thee.

Grant that in this hour of sacred memory we may enter into a blessed communion with Thy spirit and the spirit of all upon whom Thou hast bestowed the benediction, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

PRAYER

O THOU, WHO ART THE AUTHOR AND DISPOSER OF HUMAN LIFE, from whom our spirits have come and unto whom they return, through Thy holy word Thou hast spoken and in our own hearts Thy voice is heard.

Grant that in our times of need we may not turn our eyes upon the ground whence no help can come but may we turn them heavenward and unto Thee.

We thank Thee for Thy servants who walked and worked with us for a little while upon this earth and who are now with Thee in heavenly blessedness, having received the reward of their faith and fidelity, even the salvation of their souls.

We rejoice that whatever was beautiful and noble in their life, in Thy sight and our sight, abides forever. We have not said "farewell" but only "good night," hoping on some blessed morn to meet and dwell with them in hallowed union in that fairer land whose language is music and where joys are unceasing.

May the sorrowing and lonely be blessed with the consolations of Thy grace and may they daily avail themselves of the companionship of that friend, who sticketh closer than a brother and who abides with us not only for a day but throughout life and eternity.

We pray that Thou will also so teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. Enable us by Thy grace to carry on in faith, in faithfulness and in the fear of the Lord and at the eventide of life, when Thou dost call us to Thyself, may we receive a glorious entrance into that Kingdom of eternal blessedness which Thou hast prepared for Thy children.

Hear us in the name of our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

THURSDAY, MAY 17, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, we pray that Thou wilt strengthen and encourage our minds and hearts during this day with a reassuring sense of the reality of Thy greatness and goodness.

Forgive us for allowing ourselves at times to be so faithless and to feel that the noble ideals and principles, which we cherish, have lost their luster and will never be victorious.

Send us forth with new faith and hope as we pray and labor for the coming of Thy kingdom of peace and good will. Give us the intrepid spirit of the pioneer and patriot who revealed the splendor of their souls when the course which they pursued was beset by hardship and suffering.

May Thy ways of righteousness and justice and blessedness for all mankind become so clear and commanding that we shall never doubt and darken them by our indifference or by our heartless prejudices and selfish ambitions.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

MONDAY, MAY 21, 1951

ETERNAL LORD, OUR GOD, as we draw nigh unto Thee, compelled by our necessities, constrained by Thy love, and encouraged by every gracious invitation and promise in Thy Holy Word, we pray that we may be inspired with a nobler sense of personal integrity and social responsibility.

Show us how we may be better men with a higher regard and reverence for the principles of righteousness and justice.

Enlarge our feelings of compassion and concern for the hungry, the homeless, the hopeless, and all Thy needy children.

We penitently confess that in the area of human relationships we are frequently so thoughtless and inconsiderate, so selfish and supercilious.

Help us to understand that no man liveth unto himself and that our fate is bound up with the fate of men everywhere.

Grant that we may see more clearly that if our vexing social, economic, and international problems are ever to be solved then the soul of men and nations must be touched and transformed by the spirit of brotherhood and good will.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

TUESDAY, MAY 22, 1951

Almighty God, we rejoice that in our moments of prayer and worship Thou art always speaking unto us, seeking to give wisdom to our minds and courage to our hearts.

We pray that the confusion and chaos of our times may not bring doubt and despair and defeat to our souls.

Forgive us for taking counsel with our fears and allowing days of darkness and disaster to shatter our faith and shut out the vision of Thy grace and power.

Grant that as valiant soldiers we may strive to conquer those devastating and destructive desires and ambitions which are raging in the hearts of men and nations and filling the life of humanity with so much sorrow and suffering.

May we daily gird ourselves with confidence and hope and dedicate all the energies of body, mind, and soul to the supreme task of building a world community ruled by the spirit of the Prince of Peace.

Hear us in His name. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 1951

O Thou who art the bountiful benefactor, ministering to the needs of our beloved country in every generation, make us more truly grateful for our glorious heritage of freedom and democracy.

Grant that we may be eager to prove worthy of these blessings which today are demanding so much of struggle and sacrifice on the part of many of our fellow citizens.

We pray that the Members of our Congress may know how to legislate wisely as they seek to find ways and means of defending and developing this heritage for the welfare and happiness of all mankind.

We give Thee all the praise and the glory through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

THURSDAY, MAY 24, 1951

O THOU ETERNAL GOD, from whom alone cometh our strength and courage to rise victoriously above all the confusion and struggle of life, may we daily serve Thee with an obedient faith and a joyous confidence.

Grant that in these uncertain times, with their ever-shifting human scenes and baffling circumstances and perplexing problems, we may find our peace and hope in the assurance of Thy unchanging goodness, wisdom, and power.

Inspire us with an earnest longing to be the champion of every just and righteous cause. May we never be guilty of the most heinous of all sacrileges, that of a careless indifference to the tremendous sacrifices which our fellow men are making for us on the field of battle far away from home and loved ones.

We pray that the social order and civilization, which we are endeavoring to build into the life of our Nation and the world, may not be pagan and secular in character but may it be supremely moral and spiritual, bearing the marks of the righteousness of God and the righteousness of God-fearing men and women.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

THURSDAY, MAY 31, 1951

O THOU LORD GOD OMNIPOTENT, in whose hands are the issues of history and the destinies of men and nations, may we daily avail ourselves of Thy divine wisdom and power.

Grant that our minds may be God-conscious and responsive to Thy leading as we strive to find the way of the fuller and more abundant life for all mankind.

Knowing our own limitations and shortcomings, make us teachable and trustful. However dark and threatening the scenes of national and international life may be, give us a faith that is never eclipsed by despair.

We pray that our hearts may be kept free from the poison of pessimism and cynicism. May we be confident that Thou wilt not allow our souls to be mocked and betrayed by our noblest principles and loftiest aspirations.

Help us to live expectantly and hopefully. Inspire us with the vision and insight to see the foregleams and signs of a better day, despite many dismal tragedies and predictions, where men everywhere shall live together as brothers and friends.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, may we begin each new day with lofty aspirations to build a great nation but help us to see more clearly that we cannot achieve national greatness apart from service to Thee and needy humanity.

We thank Thee for the insight, the vision, and dreams of prophetic spirits and the courage and faith of heroic souls who are earnestly seeking the rule of justice and righteousness and peace upon earth.

May we also be eager to extend and widen the horizon of our sympathy and understanding and have a larger share in deepening the spirit of good will among all mankind.

Fill us with a longing to build a finer social order and not merely to improve our own position in it. May we belong to that glorious succession of men who have not lived for self and personal advantage.

Help us to hasten the day when men and nations everywhere shall engage in the great cooperative adventures and enterprises in which each member of the human family and the family of nations shall have abundant opportunity for self-initiative and self-development.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

MONDAY, JUNE 11, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, we have entered upon a new week with problems and responsibilities which challenge the best that is in us and which demand the consecration of our noblest manhood and womanhood.

We pray that in these times of tremendous economic and social upheavals and of tense and discordant international relationships, our moral and spiritual ideals may remain unshaken for if these foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?

Grant that the social order, which we are seeking to establish upon this earth, may have in it the spirit of reverence and devotion to Thee, of justice and good will toward all mankind, and of mutual trust and helpfulness.

Inspire us with an increasing concern and compassion for all who are in need. May we sense the high privilege of fellowship with Thee and with one another in the glorious enterprise of ministering to the welfare and happiness of men and nations everywhere.

In Christ's name we offer our prayer. Amen.

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 1951

O THOU ETERNAL SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD, in this moment of prayer, may our own spirits be inspired and reassured with a new faith and a new hope as we face tasks which are far beyond all finite wisdom and strength.

We are bringing unto Thee the many needs and problems of our country and the world which we know cannot be solved by legislation alone or by any form of political action, nor by might or power, but only by Thy spirit.

We pray that Thy servants who are entrusted with the responsibilities of leadership in the affairs of government, may be richly endowed with some special revelation of Thy divine guidance.

May all that we are seeking to do to build a nobler civilization reflect and validate the reality of Thy spirit within our hearts. May the day speedily come when the presence and influence of Thy spirit, in the life of man, shall conquer all feelings of hatred and unworthy attitudes.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 1951

O THOU WHO ART THE GREAT GOD OF MEN AND OF NATIONS, we rejoice that in the calendar of our national life there are many special days which stir our minds and hearts with feelings of patriotism and pride.

Grant that this day, which we call Flag Day, may inspire and kindle within us a greater loyalty and love for our country for Thou hast given us a goodly heritage and hast not dealt so bountifully and graciously with any nation.

We pray that we may reverence and obey Thy laws and the laws of our land and do all in our power to preserve and perpetuate the free institutions under which we are privileged to live.

Help us to appreciate and understand our duties and rights as citizens. May we strive to elevate the moral and spiritual character of our beloved country. Wherever the flag is carried may it be the emblem of peace and righteousness and the glorious herald proclaiming a new era of liberty and happiness for all mankind.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

FRIDAY, JUNE 15, 1951

O THOU ETERNAL GOD, OUR FATHER, we are again turning unto Thee in faith and in trust for Thou alone art the source of our joy and peace and of all wisdom and strength. We cannot get along without Thee. We lose our way unless we have Thy guiding and sustaining presence.

Thou knowest how anxious and deeply concerned we are about the safety and welfare of our beloved country in these strange and baffling times. Again and again we seem to be wandering in a maze. We often wonder what a new day may bring to us. We are "like an infant in the night, an infant crying for the light, and with no language but a cry."

Grant that we may yield ourselves gladly and unreservedly to the leading of Thy spirit as we seek to build the kingdom of brotherhood and of peace and good will.

To Thy name, through Christ Jesus our Lord, we ascribe all the praise. Amen.

MONDAY, JUNE 18, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, may we enter upon the duties of this week confidently and courageously, assured that Thy divine presence is ever round about us.

Grant that when we are confronted with difficult decisions we may not yield to those pressures which would make us subservient to our lesser and baser selves.

May all the resources of power and wisdom, which have been revealed and placed at the disposal of humanity, be sanctified and dedicated to the loftiest and noblest purposes.

We penitently confess that we are sometimes greatly bewildered and confused and frightened when we think of the vast and marvelous amount of physical power which now belongs to our modern world.

May the mind and heart of man be endowed with those moral and spiritual controls which will be adequate to direct and channel all these powers and energies to safe and beneficent ends and for the welfare of mankind and Thy glory.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 1951

O THOU WHO ART THE LORD GOD OMNIPOTENT AND OMNISCIENT, may we daily come to the sacrament of public service richly endowed with the grace of insight, the gift of interpretation, and the sinews of moral and spiritual strength.

We pray that we may always have the leading of Thy divine spirit and beseech Thee to create within us those desires which Thou dost delight to satisfy.

May it be the goal of all our aspirations to build a finer and nobler social order and to bring praise and glory to Thy great and holy name.

Grant that the day may be hastened when the blessings of freedom and democracy shall be the glorious possession of all mankind.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, we invoke the blessing of Thy presence as we take counsel together in framing the policies and in administering the affairs of government for our beloved country.

May we strive in faith, in faithfulness, and in the fear of the Lord to find the right and just solution to all our national and international problems.

We pray that our minds and hearts may be impervious to the spirit of self-aggrandizement and self-glory and to all thoughts and actions that are alien to the mind of our blessed Lord.

Help us daily to live and labor among our fellow men as the messengers and mediators of helpfulness and happiness and hopefulness.

Grant that we may be the loyal and heroic champions of every noble and righteous cause.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

MONDAY, JUNE 25, 1951

O THOU PRAYER-HEARING AND PRAYER-ANSWERING GOD, may this moment of meditation and fellowship with Thee be for each of us a time of self-examination, of cleansing of heart, and of renewed consecration to that which is noble and true.

May we be men and women who, at all times and under all circumstances, can be trusted and relied upon to do that which is honest and upright and just. Give us an uncompromising attitude toward everything that is wrong and ignoble.

Help us to see more clearly that we cannot improve the social order in which we are living unless we improve ourselves, and that the greatest contribution which we can make toward the world's progress is the gift of our life and character at their best.

Forgive us for so frequently being guilty of that carping and cynical criticism which puts the blame for our present-day condition upon someone else. May we feel that it might be well to suspend our judgment and indictment of others until we have taken stock of ourselves.

We pray that in our personal character and in all the areas of human relationships we may manifest the spirit of our blessed Lord.

Hear us in His name. Amen.

FRIDAY, JUNE 29, 1951

O THOU WHO ART THE GUIDING INTELLIGENCE and the supreme ruler of the universe, we thank Thee for the great and sublime convictions and certainties which are an anchor to our souls during these days of trial and tribulation.

May we meet the challenge of each new problem and responsibility with moral and spiritual stamina, giving the best that is within us and bearing clear and convincing testimony that we have a resolute and unfaltering faith.

Help us to realize that this is no time for a defeatist attitude; no time for us to take counsel with our fears and no time to exaggerate and make things appear better or worse than they are.

We are daily praying that we may be victorious over the forces of tyranny and aggression but grant that we may be worthy of victory. May we know what to do with victory and peace when we gain them, for the real test of our greatness and honor will come after the struggle.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 1951

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS GOD, grant that in our moments of prayer our minds and hearts may be purged from everything that dwarfs and deadens our capacities for nobility of character and service.

Inspire us to give ourselves to the leading of Thy spirit and to make a more daring trial of those moral and spiritual resources which Thou hast ordained and placed at our disposal.

Show us how we may consecrate and dedicate our talents and abilities in the building of a social order in which there shall be the spirit of amity and peace and with an eye single to Thy glory.

May we continue to cherish the fond hope that the day of blessed prediction is dawning when men and nations everywhere shall walk together in brotherhood and good will.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

MONDAY, JULY 2, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, may we begin this new week with an earnest desire to make all of its days great in moral and spiritual supremacy and glorious in wholehearted devotion and fidelity to every worthy task.

Inspire us with a triumphant faith and a sense of victorious adequacy for everything that the adventure and enterprise of living may ask or demand of us.

Grant that we may define and interpret the meaning of our life in terms of its usefulness and its value as a tributary to that which is true and beautiful and good.

May each day register some measure of achievement in helping to build a world in which there is more of righteousness and justice and more of peace and good will among men.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

TUESDAY, JULY 3, 1951

O THOU INFINITE AND ETERNAL GOD, before whom the angels bow and the archangels veil their faces, we rejoice that although Thou art high and holy yet hast Thou respect and regard for all who seek to worship Thee in a reverent and humble spirit.

We pray that our minds and hearts may be inspired with a greater loyalty toward Thee for we know that this is the one foundation and inspiration of all of life's highest loyalties.

Grant that daily we may cultivate and grow in this supreme loyalty and find our joy and strength in the assurance that Thou wilt continue to bestow Thy blessings and benediction upon us as we live and labor in fidelity to Thee and our fellow men and to our own nobler and better self.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 4, 1951

O THOU WHOSE GREATNESS AND GOODNESS are ever round about us, we thank Thee for this memorable day in the calendar of our national history which we call Independence Day.

May our hearts expand with the spirit of pride and patriotism, of gratitude and renewed consecration as we contemplate and reflect upon its sacred significance.

Grant that the Declaration of Independence, which we are again reading, may inspire us with reverence and thanksgiving for those great patriots and heroes of indomitable faith and fortitude who rendered an immeasurable service to all the centuries by making the dream of freedom a blessed reality.

We thank Thee for those lofty aspirations and hopes which stirred and thrilled their souls and gave unction and strength to all that they achieved for their own and succeeding generations.

May we highly resolve on this day of sacred memory that we also will never cease from mental and spiritual strife or allow the sword to rest in our hand until the kingdom of liberty and peace, for which our own fellow citizens are now suffering and sacrificing, has been built everywhere and all nations shall live together as a commonwealth of free men, enjoying a peace that is honorable, just, and righteous.

Show us how we may help to release the hidden splendor of humanity and may this day be prophetic of that glorious time when there shall be declared and brought to fulfillment, the eternal truth that the spirit of man is too strong for chains and too large for imprisonment.

May glory and majesty, dominion and power, through Christ Jesus, our Lord, be Thine for ever and ever. Amen.

THURSDAY, JULY 5, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, who art always seeking to draw us within the circuit and compass of Thy divine fellowship, make us more eager to accept the overtures of Thy friendship and love. We are Thy children and the subjects of Thy kingdom and Thou knowest how greatly we need Thee in order that we may be equal to every emergency and all the tasks and responsibilities which are far beyond our finite wisdom and strength.

Grant that no accident or incident of time and no experience of hardship and trial of any day may ever eclipse or banish from our souls the eternal certainty of Thy sustaining grace.

Emancipate us from all fears except the fear that we are failing to do Thy will and failing to walk in the ways of righteousness and peace which Thou hast marked out for us.

Hear us in the name of the Christ who is the way, the truth, and the life. Amen.

FRIDAY, JULY 6, 1951

O THOU ETERNAL GOD, OUR FATHER, whose divine providence hallows all our days with Thy richest blessings, we pray that we may be more worthy and more conscious and confident of Thy continuing love and care.

Grant that daily we may be strengthened in mind and in heart against the disappointments and disillusionments, the temptations and trials, and all the frustrations and fears of life.

Enable us by Thy grace to stand valiantly for whatever is just and right. When doubt and darkness beset our path may we place our hands in Thine and go forth strong and unafraid.

Inspire us with the noblest aspirations and may our souls reach out courageously in expectation and in hope for the triumph of the eternal principles of truth and justice, of good will and brotherhood.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

MONDAY, JULY 9, 1951

O THOU WHO ART THE SUPREME RULER OF THE UNIVERSE and the sovereign reality in our lives, we pray that daily we may commit our way unto Thee for Thou alone canst satisfy our mortal needs and our immortal longings.

May we see how idle and futile it is to put our confidence and hope in human ingenuity or in anything except Thy divine wisdom which never errs and Thy divine love which never fails.

Give us a clearer vision of Thy salvation and strength, Thy greatness and goodness, which will enable us to confront, with patience and courage,

the difficult decisions, the heavy burdens, the bitter struggles and all the hard experiences of life.

Grant that we may place our hands in Thine and begin each day with the prayer, "Lord what wilt Thou have us be and do?"

To Thy name, through Christ Jesus, we ascribe all the praise. Amen.

TUESDAY, JULY 10, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast revealed Thyself as a presence to strengthen and a light to lead, may this new day be rich in the realization of Thy divine power and guidance.

Grant that we may be endowed with a faith which will make us victorious over all the dark and disquieting moods that frequently baffle and play such havoc with our souls.

May we have within our hearts that peace which is begotten of simple trust in Thee, and may we realize more fully that when we have Thee we have everything.

Fill us with an eager desire to know and do Thy will, and may we follow faithfully and courageously the ways of righteousness and justice which Thou hast marked out for us.

May we be united in the service of our beloved country, not merely striving to the utmost to dethrone and destroy the gods of war but seeking to build a nation that is spiritually minded lest the darkness of secularism and materialism and atheism descend upon us.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

THURSDAY, JULY 12, 1951

ETERNAL GOD, OUR FATHER, whose thoughts concerning us are those of love and peace, we rejoice that Thou art always seeking to inspire us with a more vivid sense of Thy presence and power.

Grant that we may not be primarily concerned about having Thee do something for us but may it be our supreme desire to have Thee do something in us and with us in order that we may fulfill life's high vocation.

We pray that Thou wilt create within our minds and hearts a clearer conception of Thy divine will and a loftier appreciation of our duty toward Thee and our fellow men. May we have a new accent of faith in Thee and the daring to make trial of Thy law of love.

We humbly confess that at times we are deeply troubled and disturbed for we do not seem to know how to deal with the social and industrial and all our human problems in their modern strange and tragic setting.

May we see that we cannot solve these problems without Thee and without those spiritual realities which Thou wouldst have us appropriate and which are the source and secret of conquest.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

MONDAY, JULY 16, 1951

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS GOD, we beseech Thee to be present and favorable unto these Thy servants, guiding them with a vital and victorious faith.

Grant that they may fulfill the duties and responsibilities of their high calling with a pure and steadfast devotion.

Make us sensitive and responsive to those finer impulses which urge us to do our very best and may they become the constant and abiding realities in our lives.

Give us the joy of being coworkers with Thee, and may the lofty ideals and principles of democracy and friendship, of justice and righteousness, ever remain as the foundation stones on which we are seeking to build a more glorious nation and a nobler civilization.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

TUESDAY, JULY 17, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, grant that during this day we may yield our spirits to the persuasions and promptings of Thy Divine Spirit in order that we may rise victoriously above life's chaos and confusion, life's strain and struggle.

Kindle within our souls the sacred flame of lofty aspiration which will consume all our unworthy and ignoble desires and inspire us to reach out courageously for the true, the beautiful, and the good.

Take away from us all feelings of doubt and dismay, of despair and defeatism, of apathy and cynical indifference as Thou dost call us to labor for the coming of the day of peace and good will.

Help us to interpret our visions and longings for that better day, not as an idle dream or a forlorn hope but as a glorious divine inspiration. May we be confident that as Thou hast placed these visions and longings in our hearts, so Thou will work in us and through us and with us to bring them to fulfillment.

In Christ's name we offer our prayer. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18, 1951

O THOU WHO ART THE DIVINE COUNSELOR AND COMPANION, we rejoice that Thou hast called us to be partners with Thee in the great enterprise of establishing Thy kingdom of truth and love, of righteousness and peace upon the earth.

Inspire us to set forth a more heroic effort in behalf of Thy kingdom. May we be numbered among the idealists, the optimists, and the zealots who believe that nothing can impede the progress of the kingdom or prevent its triumph.

May this moment of prayer be a time of renewed consecration. May we now determine to have a larger share in enthroning the principles and spirit of the kingdom among all the members of the human family.

We thank Thee for our democracy. We pray that we may not be primarily intent upon making the world safe for democracy, but may we give ourselves loyally to the more difficult task of making democracy safe for the world.

Help us to see more clearly that our democracy cannot be safe and may prove to be a curse rather than a blessing if it is a democracy without spiritual vision and without moral disciplines and controls.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

THURSDAY, JULY 19, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, OUR FATHER, we are again approaching Thy throne of grace and mercy for we have nowhere else to go with our needs and nameless longings.

We humbly confess how helpless and inadequate we are in wisdom and strength to cope with our own personal problems and the many problems in the various areas of human relationship.

Grant that we may not only come humbly unto Thee but confidently for Thou art of all friends the nearest, of all counselors the wisest, and of all helpers the most willing and able to supply our needs and satisfy our longings.

Inspire us with a greater trust in Thee and in the reality and power of the moral law. Give us the grace to live nobly and hopefully, assured that truth and righteousness will prevail whatever the posture of affairs of these days may be, for if God be for us who can be against us.

Show us how we may unite the family of nations unto a commonwealth of free, peace-loving men. May we hasten the coming of that day when all the declarations of national independence and freedom shall expand and become declarations of international interdependence and cooperation and the welfare of every nation shall be the common concern of all.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

FRIDAY, JULY 20, 1951

O THOU WHOSE GRACE AND GOODNESS are universal, impartial, and everlasting, we pray that we may be more worthy and appreciative of our blessings.

Grant that our beloved country may be rich and great not only in the possession and power of material resources but in the lofty principles of righteousness and justice, of freedom and fraternity, and of loyalty and obedience to Thy divine will.

We beseech Thee that the life of our citizens may be rooted more firmly in the moral and spiritual realities which alone will enable us to remain strong and steadfast in times of crisis and confusion.

Inspire us with a greater respect and reverence for the laws which Thou hast ordained and revealed and may we believe that they are as binding upon the state as upon the individual.

Hear us in the name of our blessed Lord in whom we find cleansing from sin, comfort in sorrow, faith for today, and hope for the unknown future. Amen.

TUESDAY, JULY 24, 1951

O THOU INFINITE AND ETERNAL GOD, whose divine presence and power hallow all our days, grant that in these strange and arduous times we may appropriate Thy revealing and sustaining grace.

We know that of ourselves we can do nothing. We penitently confess that again and again we are smitten with a sense of how insignificant and fragile our individual and corporate life is in contrast with the vastness of the universe and the greatness of the tasks which confront us.

We beseech Thee that when the days appear irrevocably dark and the problems and struggles of life are so very difficult, we may accept them as a challenge to increase the ardor of our efforts and to mobilize our faith in the abiding reality and the inexhaustible strength of the moral and spiritual resources.

God forbid that we should ever invalidate the splendor of these resources and the revelations of Thy truth and ways of righteousness by surrendering to our fears and forebodings and allowing our trust in Thee to be eclipsed by feelings of doubt and despair.

Hear us in the name of Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, who would have us live victoriously and joyously, grant that in this moment of prayer we may be inspired with a greater moral courage to play the game of life in a big manly way.

Help us to think clearly and act bravely in accord with the noblest principles and loftiest ideals, conscious of no fear except the fear of failing to do our best.

We thank Thee for the sincere and honest men and women in the sphere of politics and public service who are not bowing the knee to Baal. Our hearts expand with pride as we see our leaders and representatives maintaining their integrity in the face of the great temptation to make expediency the standard and test of their actions rather than truth and righteousness.

We pray that no Member of Congress may ever be guilty of an anemic surrender or cowardly resignation to those conditions and policies which would lower their sense of self-respect and cause them to forfeit the respect of their fellow citizens.

May it be the goal of all our aspirations and endeavors to bring in the kingdom of peace and brotherhood.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

FRIDAY, JULY 27, 1951

O THOU WHO ART ALWAYS EXHORTING US to cultivate and rise to a finer appreciation of the worth and dignity of life, we pray that our minds and hearts may now be stirred with nobler sense of our duties and responsibilities.

Grant that our chosen representatives may manifest, in their deliberations and decisions and in the conduct of the affairs of Government, the moral and spiritual mettle of their character as loyal and God-fearing citizens.

May we never be afraid to stand courageously for everything that is just and right when others are fawning and cringing for power or fame.

Give us the glory and strength of carrying on with the confidence and conviction that we are on the Lord's side and that His righteous ways will prevail.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

MONDAY, JULY 30, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, we thank Thee for the dawning of this new week bringing unto us many wonderful opportunities to live courageously and helpfully.

We pray that daily we may become more reverently appreciative and worthy of our high calling to be partners with one another in building a nobler social order for all mankind.

Grant that we may be willing and able to accept our share of the responsibility for defending and conserving those lofty ideals and principles which alone will make our civilization truly great.

May we never become indifferent toward the glorious enterprise of establishing the kingdom of peace and righteousness upon the earth. Let us not give up hope, and may the doubts and fears which at times assail us never harden into despair and defeatism.

Hear us in the name of our blessed Lord who is our refuge and strength and help in time of trouble. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 1951

O THOU WHOSE DIVINE LOVE NEVER FAILS and never forgets or forsakes us, Thou knowest how greatly we need Thee in these dark and tragic times to guide our thoughts, to answer our doubts, and to keep our faith strong and steadfast.

Grant that we may be men and women who carry the light of truth and righteousness in our hearts and may our loyalty be unwavering, our courage unfaltering, and our efforts untiring as we seek to build the kingdom of peace and brotherhood upon the earth.

Show us how we may bring about a closer fellowship and a better understanding between all the nations. Help us to recognize our kinship. May we see how much we have in common and how much we can do to minister to one another's welfare and happiness.

In Christ's name we bring our petition. Amen.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 2, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, who art always providing for us so abundantly and whose goodness and mercy follow us all our days, we pray that we may never make a selfish use of our blessings.

We penitently confess that we know very well that there would be far less of suffering and sorrow in our world if human nature had in it more of Thy divine compassion and self-giving love. Inspire us with a magnanimous spirit and a keener sense of social responsibility.

Grant us the Christlike vision and perspective, and may we see our fellow men and their struggles as Thou wouldst have us see them. Help us to look at needy humanity through the eyes of our blessed Lord which were the eyes of sympathy and kindness and hope.

We pray that the day may be hastened when every need will be supplied and the heart of all mankind shall be filled with happiness and peace.

Hear us in the name of our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 1951

O THOU GOD OF ALL MAJESTY AND HOLINESS, grant that daily we may follow Thy way of life with faith and fidelity, with confidence and courage, and with an indomitable and conquering spirit.

We penitently confess that many things are happening in our time and generation which fill us with despondency and dismay, with sorrow and shame. There are days when it looks as if our guiding buoys have broken away from their mooring and the ship of state is drifting along carelessly and aimlessly.

Inspire us with a loftier sense of moral responsibility, and may we put forth a more heroic effort in behalf of a finer type of individual character and conduct and a nobler social order.

May the sacred principles of integrity and righteousness be incarnated and become regnant in all the areas of human life and activity.

We thank Thee for Thy servant who walked and worked with us and whose spirit now dwells with Thee in heavenly blessedness, forever with the Lord. Grant unto the members of his bereaved family the consolation of Thy grace.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1951

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS GOD, may our minds and hearts be blessed during this day with insight to discern, wisdom to understand, and courage to follow Thy righteous and holy will more faithfully.

Show us how we may bring to fulfillment the great moral and spiritual realities and may we manifest their supremacy in a filial devotion toward Thee and a fraternal spirit toward all mankind.

We pray that in every political aspiration and endeavor of the day we may seek Thy divine glory and the welfare of humanity.

Help us to build the kingdom of peace and brotherhood and may we never surrender those ideals and principles which must be defended and preserved if our civilization is to survive and our Nation to be truly great.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, whose divine providence is always beneficent in its character and purpose and abundantly adequate to supply our needs, we thank Thee for the many revelations of Thy continuing care and goodness.

May we now in all humility and simplicity render unto Thee the tribute of our heartfelt adoration and praise. Grant that the sincerity of our gratitude may be manifested in renewed consecration.

We rejoice that daily we may commit ourselves to the leading of Thy spirit as we strive to find the right solution to our many perplexing problems.

Enlarge our minds and hearts with sympathy and good will toward all mankind and may we fulfill Thy righteous law by doing unto others as we would that they should do unto us.

Together we confess our sins and together we seek Thy mercy and pardoning grace in the name of our blessed Lord and Saviour. Amen.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 10, 1951

Eternal God, our Father, the supreme source of all wisdom and strength, we pray that the leaders and representatives of our beloved country who administer the affairs of government may daily receive special revelations of Thy guiding and sustaining spirit.

We thank Thee for the founding fathers who sought to secure the inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for all who were willing to accept the responsibilities as well as the privileges of true and loyal citizenship.

Grant that in these days, when these rights are being threatened by evil forces within and without our Republic, we may see more clearly that a strong, God-fearing citizenry is absolutely essential for the preservation and perpetuation of our democracy and our national heritage.

Make us a united people, willing to exercise self-restraint and self-denial and ready to undergo any sacrifice for the honor of our country and for the sake of the public welfare and the glory of Thy great and holy name.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

MONDAY, AUGUST 13, 1951

Almighty and ever blessed God, we thank Thee for this moment of prayer set apart for communion with the great Companion of our souls and the Counselor of our minds.

May we always feel the presence and power of Thy divine spirit, and begin each new day with the prayer, "What wilt Thou have me be and do?"

Grant that we may be inspired to give our best for the most helpful and noblest ways of serving our country and all mankind.

Make us trustworthy and faithful, as we aspire to stand in the glorious tradition of those who sought to do justly, loved mercy, and walked humbly with the Lord.

Hear us in the name of the Christ, our Saviour. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1951

O THOU GRACIOUS BENEFACTOR, may we begin this new day with a worthier appreciation of the many blessings which Thou dost bestow upon us.

Grant that as the beneficiaries of Thy bountiful providence we may also be conscious of our responsibilities as stewards.

Give us a clearer vision of each day's innumerable opportunities for serving humanity in acts of personal kindness and helpfulness.

Fill our minds and hearts with pride as we contemplate the wonderful privilege of working with Thee and with others in fashioning our civilization according to mind and spirit of our blessed Lord.

May the social order that we are building be one in which men everywhere are eager to obey Thy divine commandments, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God, with all thy heart and soul and mind and strength," and, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

May grace, mercy, and peace descend upon all mankind through Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, 1951

ETERNAL GOD, OUR FATHER, as we go forth daily to meet our tasks and responsibilities in this time of crisis and confusion, may we heed Thy divine exhortation, "Wait on the Lord and be of good courage."

We humbly acknowledge that we are frequently tempted to lose heart and hope. May we have a faith that will give us a sense of serenity and security when the winds are contrary and the going is so very difficult.

Help us to feel that every duty is worthy of our best endeavor and that the noblest contribution which we can make to life is to have some part in establishing Thy kingdom of righteousness and peace upon this earth.

May we yield ourselves to the leading of Thy spirit, confident that where Thou dost guide Thou wilt also provide.

To Thy name through Christ, our Saviour, we shall ascribe all the praise. Amen.

MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, as we enter upon a week of serious business may we feel that it is our highest wisdom and most sacred privilege to bring our spirits into a closer union with Thy spirit.

May all our desires and aspirations be brought into such a blessed harmony with Thy divine will that we, too, may be able to say, "The Father and I are one."

Make us tireless in our efforts, unwavering in our loyalty, unfaltering in our courage, and invincible in our hope as we labor together to establish the kingdom of peace and righteousness.

Show us how we may successfully combat and conquer the many evil and sinister forces which are seeking to undermine our democratic way of life and cause hatred and estrangement between the nations of the earth.

We pray that our President, our Speaker, the leaders and Members of Congress, and our representatives in the United Nations may be wise and sagacious politicians, statesmen, and diplomats in the things of moral and spiritual value as they strive for good will and brotherhood among men.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1951

O THOU WHO DOST PRESIDE OVER THE DESTINIES of men and nations, we earnestly beseech Thee to bestow the blessings of wisdom and understanding, of insight and interpretation upon all who serve and guide our beloved country in these troublous times.

Grant that our leaders and Members of Congress, who administer the affairs of government in these days of difficult adjustments and problems, may be richly endowed with that wisdom which cometh from above as they seek to bring Thy blessings to all mankind.

We pray that they may be wise in moral and spiritual strategy and in statecraft and wilt Thou use them in establishing Thy kingdom of righteousness and peace upon the earth.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1951

O THOU ETERNAL GOD from whose abiding presence neither time nor distance can separate us, in this moment of communion we would erect our Ebenezer of thanksgiving for hitherto Thou hast blessed us and through Thy mercies we have been spared and by Thy power we have daily been sustained.

Grant that now, with renewed energy and enthusiasm of faith and courage and inspired with prophetic vision and unity of purpose, we may again address ourselves to the high and noble task of seeking to find a just and righteous solution to the many difficult social, political, and economic problems which confront our day and generation.

We pray that our President, our Speaker, the Members of Congress, and all who hold positions of leadership, influence, and authority in our Republic may know how to use wisely every resource and art of persuasive reasoning in proclaiming and establishing the ideals and principles of a God-fearing democracy.

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May our testimony to the worth and grandeur of the democratic way of life be so clear and commanding that men and nations hearing the Voice of America may feel that this is the voice of freedom and may their hearts be kindled with new hope for the coming of that glorious day of universal peace and brotherhood.

We thank Thee for the life and character of Thy servants whom Thou hast called unto Thyself and who are now dwelling with Thee in heavenly blessedness. Grant unto the members of their bereaved families the consolation of Thy grace.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1951

O THOU SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD, who art the guiding intelligence in the mind of man and whom we daily need in order that our life may have meaning, worth, and power, we pray that obedience to Thy divine will and purpose may be woven into the texture and fabric of our being.

Grant that we may guard ourselves against all the temptations and dangers which threaten to undermine our loyalty to the great moral ideals and principles which Thou hast ordained.

Show us Thy way and give us a deeper appreciation of those eternal verities and virtues which will bring freedom and peace to our own hearts and to the members of the human family.

Emancipate us from selfishness and from any sense of provincialism in our thinking and in our attitude toward others. Make us more altruistic and may we seek to cultivate and acquire a nobler skill in the fine art of brotherly living.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, at this noonday we are again coming unto Thee in the fellowship of prayer, one in our consciousness of sin and of weakness and failure, one in our need of Thy forgiving mercy and Thy restoring and strengthening grace, one in our search for those blessings which none can ever find or enjoy alone.

May this moment of worship and communion enlarge our vision of the worth and dignity of human life and inspire us to sincerely make the adventure to become what we are praying to be and what we know and feel we ought to be and can be.

Help us to yield ourselves to Thy divine sovereignty with a wholehearted and joyous devotion and grant that daily we may earnestly strive to know

Thy will and endeavor to obey and fulfill it with noble daring and heroic faith.

Hear us in the name of our blessed Lord who is always seeking to enter and rule the mind and heart of man by the power of His truth and the winsomeness of His infinite love. Amen.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1951

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS GOD, our needs are many but Thy blessings outnumber all our necessities and no aspiration, which Thou hast implanted within our souls, is beyond the reach of fulfillment by Thy infinite wisdom and love.

We pray that at the beginning of this new week we may be inspired with a greater faith in the power of Thy divine sovereignty as we seek to have a share in establishing Thy kingdom of peace and righteousness.

Grant that daily we may surrender ourselves to Thy wise and holy will, not in dumb resignation or in sullen submission but with glad and grateful hearts and giving Thee all the glory.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1951

ETERNAL GOD, OUR FATHER, upon whom we are dependent for all our blessings, humbly and honestly we acknowledge that always and everywhere we need Thee.

In our weakness and weariness we need Thee to strengthen and sustain us; in our sorrows and loneliness to comfort and befriend us; in our confusion and perplexity to clarify our minds and keep us from doubt and despair; in our days of prosperity and affluence to restrain us from becoming proud and vainglorious.

We pray that we may serve our generation faithfully, linking our endeavors and hopes with the noble traditions of our God-fearing fathers and inspired by the priceless inheritance which they have left us.

Grant that we may find our joy in doing Thy will and may the close of each day bear testimony to a further advance in the glorious adventure of building a better world.

Hear us in the name of the Christ who being Lord of all was willing for our sakes to become the servant of all. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1951

ALMIGHTY AND ETERNAL GOD, under the canopy of Thy grace and goodness we gather not only to remember with gratitude the historic past, which was ladened with innumerable blessings, but we are also turning with faith toward that prophetic future which will be more glorious than our fondest hopes and dreams.

We beseech Thee to bestow upon us a clearer sense of Thy divine presence and power as we continue to pray and labor for the coming of that time when men everywhere shall live and walk together as the sons of God in peace and good will.

Fill us with a courage that will make us equal to all the issues and problems and tasks which confront us and may we be inspired with a fidelity that will never be guilty of any surrender of principle or betrayal of devotion to that which is just and righteous.

In Christ's name we present our petition. Amen.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1951

O THOU WHOSE DIVINE WILL CAN NEVER BE THWARTED OR DEFEATED, we pray that we may now be inspired with that loftier vision and clear understanding which always come to those who wait upon the Lord.

We humbly confess that our hearts so frequently become filled with fear and our groping and faltering spirits fail to live triumphantly because we have put our confidence and hope in our own puny plans and purposes.

Help us to believe that Thy kingdom of righteousness and peace is slowly and surely emerging no matter how dark and heavy the clouds of national and international woe at times may seem to be or how great the welter of confusion and uncertainty in which we are living and laboring.

May the spirit of our blessed Lord, in whose name we pray, be the strength of our souls and the joy of our hearts. Amen.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1951

ALMIGHTY AND ETERNAL GOD, Thou hast brought us to a new day filled with revelation of the wonder and glory of Thy greatness and Thy goodness.

Inspire us now to open widely the door of our hearts that Thou mayest touch them to nobler issues and our life may become a life of serenity and peace, of courage and power.

Grant that we may give ourselves more eagerly and earnestly to the high and heroic task of ministering faithfully to the needs of our beloved country and through our country may we seek to serve humanity.

May the lofty ideals which we cherish never become blurred or dimmed but may we strive to fulfill them, undaunted and undismayed by the trials and tribulations which daily confront us.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1951

O THOU ETERNAL GOD, OUR FATHER, in whom alone we can find help for each new day and hope for every unknown tomorrow, we rejoice that Thou art always willing to guide the erring, to heal the afflicted, to comfort the sorrowing, to strengthen the weak, and to forgive the sinful.

We pray that in these tragic and troublous days we may be more conscious of the moral and spiritual laws which Thou has ordained, obedience to which will emancipate us from all fear and foreboding and fill our minds with peace.

We penitently confess that we are continually trying to exploit Thee and to use Thee for our own selfish ends instead of seeking to be used by Thee in the fulfillment of Thy wise and holy plans and purposes.

Grant that we may embody the spirit of our blessed Lord, that spirit of trust, of compassion, of kindness, and of love which never sought its own but the glory of God and the welfare of all mankind.

Hear us in His name. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, who art willing and able to satisfy our temporal needs and our eternal longings, help us to appreciate more fully how sacred and wonderful it is that daily we may hold communion with a mind of supreme intelligence and a heart whose infinite love will never let us go.

We pray that we may yield ourselves unreservedly to the guidance of Thy spirit, and when the ways are dark and beset with difficulties may we go forth unafraid, placing our hands in Thine and heeding Thy voice when Thou dost say, "This is the way; walk ye therein."

God grant that our faith day by day may be deepened. May we feel that Thou wilt lead us out of darkness into the clear light of day.

May we be supremely confident that all things are working together for our good if we love Thee. Hear us in the name of the Captain of our salvation, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1951

O THOU GOD OF ALL GRACE, may our thoughts now go out toward Thee in adoration and in aspiration for Thou art always seeking to make our minds and hearts the sanctuaries of Thy presence, Thy peace, and Thy power.

We pray that Thou wilt take complete possession of our lives, transfiguring them into the glorious likeness of Thy divine spirit and transforming them from what they are to what they were meant to be and can be.

Inspire us with a faith that will enable us to conquer those dark moods of cynicism and defeatism which so frequently haunt and overshadow us.

When we encounter problems and situations which seem to grow more difficult the longer we ponder them, grant that they may not cause us to doubt but may we bring them unto Thee for Thou alone canst solve them.

Bless all who are giving themselves to the high endeavor for the freedom and peace of humanity and may there be more of the spirit of brotherhood among the nations instead of each seeking its own ends.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, OUR FATHER, may we begin this new week with confidence and courage, ready to accept life's duties and demands without reservation or retreat.

Grant that in these days of high and holy remembrance in the lives of many of our fellow citizens, who are reverently linking themselves to the glorious traditions of their God-fearing fathers, there may be born within the hearts and minds of all the people of our beloved country a finer appreciation of religion as a great law and principle of our being. May we never interpret freedom of religion as freedom from religion.

God forbid that we should ever set up dogmas and rites and orders that limit and exclude and divide the members of the human family, but may we help them to cultivate a more magnanimous, tolerant, and sympathetic spirit and the will to fellowship and a sense of universal community.

May we be eager to join hearts and hands in doing whatever is necessary and whatever lies within our power to make the spirit of brotherhood prevail, for we know that only a social order that is brotherly can meet the needs of these stupendous times.

Hear us for the sake of the Prince of Peace who came in the name of our blessed Lord. Amen.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1951

Most merciful and gracious God, whose inspiration and help are the supreme needs of our life, grant that we may be conscious of Thy all-pervading presence and sustaining power as we face the bewildering problems of each new day.

We pray that Thou wilt expand our minds and hearts that they may be large enough to understand and comprehend Thy will and Thy love.

Guide us by Thy spirit as we take counsel together for the common good of all mankind and show us how we may mobilize every moral and spiritual resource in behalf of a finer civilization.

May we seek to prove worthy of a more revealing vision of Thyself by being obedient and loyal to Thy divine commandments and by translating into noble character and service every lofty impulse which Thou hast implanted within our souls.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1951

O Thou, who art always calling us to be partners with Thee in a holy alliance and in establishing peace and good will among men, we penitently confess that mankind is often so divided against itself and frequently so far astray from Thee.

Grant that all the members of the human family may be inspired with a more earnest quest for a closer union with one another and a more intimate fellowship with Thee.

We beseech Thee that in the realm of human relationships we may not be merely satisfied with cultivating and practicing the spirit of tolerance but may we strive to widen the areas of cooperation and helpfulness, with none seeking its own selfish advantage and welfare.

We pray that, in spite of the many reverses and obstacles which we are encountering, we may have the patience and courage to believe and hope that our troubled world is moving toward a new synthesis, when there will be further and more lasting reconciliations and agreements among the nations of the earth.

We thank Thee for the noble life and character of Thy servant who gave himself so wholeheartedly to this ministry of peace and reconciliation. Thou hast called him into Thy nearer presence. His sun went down while it was yet day only to rise again in eternal glory. May the members of his bereaved family receive the consolation of Thy grace. Hear us in the name of our blessed Lord. Amen.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, WE AGAIN BESEECH THEE to grant Thy infallible and unerring wisdom and counsel unto all the Members of the Congress who, during these perilous days, are bearing the responsibility and anguish of making decisions which are of momentous and far-reaching significance.

We know that the soul of man is not able and sufficient to be its own guide. May we accept the gracious overtures of Thy divine spirit to bring our finite minds into harmony with Thy supreme intelligence which controls and directs the stately order of the vast universe of which we are only an infinitesimal part.

We pray that we may never live on those low levels of deceit and duplicity, of hyprocrisy and dishonesty to which our baser self would drag us down, but may we be true to our better self and aspire to reach those loftier heights of truth and righteousness, of heroic endeavor and noble achievement and of moral beauty and spiritual loveliness.

To Thy name we ascribe all the praise. Amen.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1951

O THOU ETERNAL GOD, OUR FATHER, whose heart always opens with love in response to those who truly seek Thee, inspire us now with a greater faith in prayer and may we never set any limits to its efficacy and its possibilities.

Grant that daily we may yield ourselves in a glad and willing obedience to the mind of our blessed Lord for we are desperately in need of His spirit to give us hope and courage and to restrain us from harboring those feelings of cynicism and doubt which so often storm the citadel of our souls.

May we be eager to have a larger part in hastening the dawning of that better day when out of this world's tragedies and tyrannies, its hatred and bitterness, its bigotry and prejudice, its selfishness and sin, there shall emerge a social order that has in it the Master's spirit of good will and kindness and love.

Hear us in His name. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1951

O THOU WHO HAST MADE THYSELF KNOWN as a prayer-hearing and prayer-answering God, help us to believe that more things are wrought by prayer than we have ever dreamed of.

Give us the glad assurance that through communion with Thee our confused and intractable spirits can be lifted out of restlessness into peace, out of weakness into strength, out of sorrow into joy, and out of defeat into victory.

Grant that we may always have such a clear vision of Thy will that none shall ever lose his way. Inspire us with wisdom to understand and interpret rightly the meaning of life's varied experiences.

May we keep our minds and hearts sensitive and responsive to the promptings and leading of Thy divine spirit as we seek to discharge faithfully every imperative duty.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, THE SOURCE OF EVERY BLESSING, Thou hast endowed men and nations with glorious capacities and insights to discover the wonders and mysteries of the universe with their unlimited possibilities for good but we penitently confess that mankind frequently uses them for cruel and unworthy ends.

Grant that by Thy spirit of mercy and compassion the mind and heart of man may be emancipated from all attitudes of hatred and bitterness, rancor, and revenge, and be tempered with some finer essence of brotherly kindness and forbearance and forgiveness.

Help us to believe in a social order in which men everywhere join hands in a great cooperative effort to establish peace and righteousness upon the earth. May we so reorder our own personal lives that we shall bear witness to our loyalty to the moral and spiritual standards.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, who art the inspiration of everything that gives meaning, worth and strength to our lives, grant that in these moments of prayer we may develop new and larger capacities of insight, endurance and understanding to live the joyous and victorious life of harmony with Thy divine spirit.

Inspire us with freedom from fear and help us to gain the mastery over all the dark moods of doubt and defeatism which would dwarf and enslave us and eclipse our faith.

May each day be radiant with a sense of Thy guiding presence and sustaining power as we seek to minister unto needy humanity with all its physical sufferings and moral agony, its heartaches and nameless longings. We pray that we may give ourselves more wholeheartedly and devotedly to the glorious task of building a finer social order and may it not simply be the old social order, patched up and plastered over, but a truly new one wherein dwelleth the righteousness, the good will, and the brotherly spirit of the Prince of Peace.

Hear us in His name. Amen.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1951

ETERNAL GOD, OUR FATHER, inspire us now with the spirit of humility and reverence as we unite our hearts to worship Thee.

Grant that in these troubled days we may have Thy unmistakable guidance as we daily assemble to deliberate and debate in the interest of the best kind of legislation for our beloved country.

We penitently confess that our finite minds know so little. Our thoughts are often so vague and futile and we know not how to interpret and implement our problems to the life of our generation.

We pray that we may be more devoutly obedient to the leading of Thy spirit. Show us how we may decide and settle every great problem in the same way as Thy servants did in the long ago which enabled them to say, "It seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us."

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1951

ALMIGHTY GOD, who art the joy of those who know Thee and the strength of all who hope and aspire and struggle for better todays and better tomorrows, grant that daily we may surrender ourselves faithfully to the sovereignty of Thy wise and holy will.

Inspire us with courage to make a more sincere and daring trial of the Master's spirit and way of life; His faith and love; His humility and obedience; His limitless mercy and forgiveness; His consideration and compassion; His friendship and kindness.

We beseech Thee that in these confused and critical days we may be guided and directed by His spirit to new insights, new ventures of faith, new vistas of outlook, new attitudes, a new sense of social obligation and responsibility, and a new obedience to the God of the Universe.

Hear us in His name. Amen.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1951

O THOU GOD OF RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HOLINESS may this Chamber now be for us a sanctuary and a place of answers to prayer. Inspire us in this moment of quietness and communion with a greater faith in Thee and in the power of those eternal ideals and principles which Thou hast ordained.

We pray that Thy Spirit may mediate a larger measure of moral health and strength to our Republic during these days when the peace and security of our national life seem to be seriously menaced by forces of aggression from without and by many within our own borders who are making a mad scramble for wealth and power and pleasure.

Grant that our citizens and all who guide the ship of state may embody and express that noble kind of patriotism which seeks in personal character and public service to safeguard and perpetuate the good name of our country.

May it be our supreme ambition to glorify Thee and to help humanity find the more abundant life of peace and happiness. Make us worthy of receiving the benediction which Thou dost bestow upon the faithful. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1951

ALMIGHTY AND ETERNAL GOD, who art always manifesting Thy grace and loving kindness, grant that we may be truly grateful for the many material and spiritual blessings which Thou hast vouchsafed unto us during this session of Congress.

Help us to continue to covet and cultivate more earnestly the durable satisfactions of life. God forbid that we should ever misdirect our aspirations and energies by putting the emphasis in the wrong places and on the wrong things.

May we understand that the peace and freedom, which we prize so highly, and for which we are contending, cannot be secured and maintained by our own human wisdom and might but by Thy spirit pervading and sustaining our individual and national life.

We pray that Thou wilt bestow upon our Speaker, the Members of Congress, and all who have served in various capacities, the seal of Thy approval and Thy fatherly benediction. May we have within our minds and hearts the testimony that we have sought to fulfill the duties of our high vocation with a pure and steadfast devotion to Thee and our fellow men.

May the Lord bless us and keep us; the Lord make His face to shine upon us and be gracious unto us; the Lord lift upon us the light of His countenance and give us peace. Hear us in Christ's name.

Amen.

EIGHTY-SECOND CONGRESS

Second Session

TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 1952

O Thou Ancient of Days, by whose mercies we are spared and by whose power we are sustained, grant that this new year, in government and in private life, may be radiant and glorious with moral and spiritual significance.

As we walk and work together in the fields of time and the temporal way we seek to achieve in character and in service that which is eternal and beyond all the years.

Show us how we may cultivate and bring to fulfillment and fruition humanity's longings and aspirations for world peace and a finer social order.

We pray that there may be channeled and mediated unto us and through us a larger measure of faith and hope, of confidence and courage, of devotion and integrity as we lay hold of tasks and problems which demand the consecration of our noblest manhood and womanhood.

May our President, our Speaker, and the Members of Congress daily take counsel with the God of all wisdom for Thou alone canst make them equal to the duties and responsibilities of their high vocation.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1952

Almighty God, who art the inspiration of all that makes life worthy and worth while, we pray that our minds and hearts may be filled with a sincere desire to serve Thee and our generation with a pure and steadfast devotion.

Grant that our President, our Speaker, and the chosen Representatives of our own and every God-fearing nation may be blessed with a clear vision of Thy holy will and new experiences of spiritual power and moral conquest as they respond to the arduous task of leading groping humanity out of darkness and confusion into the light and glory of a better day.

Give us the infallible guidance of Thy divine spirit in order that the great goals of peace and prosperity, which we cherish and are striving to

reach for our beloved country and all mankind, may not be delayed by the dullness of our own finite wisdom or defeated by any wrong and unwise human plans and methods.

To Thy name, through Christ Jesus, our Lord, we ascribe all the praise. Amen.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 1952

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS GOD, who hast entrusted us with a high vocation, we beseech Thee that daily we may meet our tasks and responsibilities with clear minds and courageous hearts.

Grant that all the leaders and Members of this legislative body may be blessed with the guiding and strengthening ministry of Thy spirit as they endeavor to find the surest and most effective ways of defending and safeguarding our heritage of freedom.

We pray that in all our plans and efforts to enlarge and mobilize our material resources we may not fail to see that it is our highest wisdom to put our trust in Thee and to avail ourselves of those inexhaustible moral and spiritual resources which Thou hast placed at our disposal.

Hear us in the name of the Captain of our salvation. Amen.

MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 1952

O THOU WHOM WE REVERENTLY WORSHIP AND ADORE as the infinite and infallible source of wisdom and the light of all that is true and the strength of all that is good, grant that this new week may be rich in the culture of our souls and in the realization of the God-ordained way of life.

Inspire our minds with a reassuring vision of Thy gracious and beneficent purposes and our hearts with a splendor of faith and courage which nothing can ever eclipse or extinguish.

Enable us by Thy grace to fortify ourselves against every unworthy and inordinate impulse and every callous and cynical temper of mind which may assail us as we face our duties and responsibilities.

We pray that the ethic of good will and justice, of brotherhood and friendship, may be the foundation on which we are seeking to build a worthy and an enduring civilization.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 1952

O THOU WHO ART OMNISCIENT AND WHOSE WILL IS SUPREME, grant that in all our deliberations and decisions we may bear testimony to the interpreting light and the unmistakable guidance of Thy divine spirit.

We pray that we may authenticate the reality, the value, and power of moral and spiritual law by the integrity and devotion of our character and conduct in private life and in public service.

May we be constrained and inspired to make a more daring trail of the God-given ideals and principles as we seek to lift mankind into the loftier altitudes of amity and peace.

Grant that the advent of that blessed day when men everywhere shall seek Thy glory and one another's welfare may be the ultimate goal of our aspirations and endeavors.

In Christ's name we humbly bring our petition. Amen.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 1952

O THOU MERCIFUL BENEFACTOR, we are again invoking the blessings of Thy grace and favor upon ourselves, upon our beloved country, and all mankind.

May the American way of life, which we prize so highly, not merely be one of conformity to a code of laws but may we view it as a patriotic devotion to those lofty ideals and principles which Thou hast ordained.

Grant that the day may be hastened when there shall be less need of laws and regulations and restraints and man shall recognize and respect the sanctity of the duty and privilege of self-control and self-government and voluntary obedience.

Show us how we may inspire humanity to cultivate a more sacred regard for the moral and spiritual capacities and instincts with which we have been created.

Help us to feel the romance of goodness and righteousness and to exalt and enthrone in our hearts the virtues of honesty, loyalty, fidelity, and justice.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 1952

ALMIGHTY GOD, in whose wisdom and power our baffled minds and troubled hearts may find their strength and hope, grant that daily we may meet every challenging experience with resolute faith and fortitude.

Establish within our souls those loyalties and integrities which cannot be shaken and those desires which Thou dost delight to satisfy.

Humbly and penitently we are beseeching Thee that, as members of the human family, we may be more mindful of one another, and in our common remembrance may we be ready to bear one another's burdens.

We pray that our vision of a finer civilization and a nobler social order may be so clear and commanding that we shall respond with a fervent desire and determination to make it a blessed reality.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

MONDAY, JANUARY 21, 1952

ETERNAL GOD, OUR FATHER, in whom we find the sanction and inspiration of our noblest ideals and endeavors, may we begin this day with new expectations and hopes, new desires and determination to build a more friendly and fraternal world order.

Give us a loftier conception of humanity for we are frequently tempted to yield to cynicism and doubt and to feel that we dare not look for anything better than selfishness and greed and hatred.

We humbly confess that we have failed to believe and understand that our earthly lives, so brief at their longest and so broken at their best, can never be redeemed from insignificance and be endowed with worth and meaning unless we link them to Thee and Thy eternal purposes.

Grant that by Thy grace and power the spirit of our blessed Lord may be applied to all our national and international affairs and may it become increasingly realized and regnant in the life of all mankind.

Hear us in His name. Amen.

MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 1952

O THOU WHO HAST MADE THYSELF KNOWN AS OUR FATHER and the guiding intelligence in the life of all mankind, we would begin, continue, and end each day with Thee.

Strengthen our faith; deepen our sense of the spiritual resources; direct our counsels by Thy divine wisdom; give us the assurance and the joy of knowing that we are doing Thy will.

Show us how we may lift humanity to the height and climax of its capacities and possibilities. Inspire us to go forth joyously and victoriously in our search for a loftier, truer, and more satisfying way of life.

We pray that all the ways and means that we are using in the building of a nobler civilization may be God-inspired and courageously realistic.

We thank Thee for Thy faithful servant whom Thou hast called unto Thyself. Grant unto the members of his bereaved family the consolations of Thy grace.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29, 1952

ALMIGHTY GOD, who art able and willing to enrich and endow us abundantly with the needed blessings of knowledge and understanding, of insight and interpretation, we are again looking unto Thee for guidance.

Grant that the Members of the Congress may have that confidence, favor, and influence with their constituents and all the citizens of our Republic which come from faithfully following Thy leading and from diligently discharging the duties of their high calling.

May we daily seek to have a larger share in building a world order in which Thou shalt be worshiped more worthily and struggling humanity shall be served more effectually.

Inspire us with a fearless attitude and an open-minded welcome for every plan and proposal that may help to solve our difficult domestic and foreign problems.

In Christ's name we bring our petitions. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 1952

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS GOD grant that in the quiet of this moment of prayer and meditation we may be brought into a richer and more vivid experience of the inexhaustible resources of Thy grace.

Help us to make a wholehearted response to the Master's overtures of friendship. May we have the courage to accept the challenge to fashion our personal character and the character of all mankind after the pattern which He has given us.

We pray that daily we may feel the impact of His ideals and principles upon our minds. May His passion for truth and righteousness stir our hearts and may we see the dawning of a better day as we seek to build that finer social order which He called the Kingdom of God.

To Thy name we shall ascribe the glory. Amen.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 1952

ALMIGHTY GOD, who art always urging and inspiring us to find life's highest meaning and to fulfill its greatest possibilities, humbly and penitently we confess that in our search we have not availed ourselves of Thy divine wisdom and strength.

Grant that all the areas of private and public life, our homes, our business, our political and social activities may be permeated and ordered by the loftiest ideals and principles.

Show us how we may awaken within the heart of humanity those inner controls and convictions and sanctions with which man has been created

so that it will become increasingly less necessary to enact more laws and multiply legislation.

Give us a clearer knowledge and understanding of how to make a more persuasive and effective appeal to mankind's spirit of reverence and respect for justice and righteousness.

Wilt Thou use us in helping the members of the human family to cultivate a nobler relationship to Thee and to one another and thus find the secret of joy and peace.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1952

ALMIGHTY GOD, as we face the duties and tasks of a new week, may we be quickened and stimulated with feelings of sympathy and brotherhood for all mankind.

Fill us with a passion for social justice and righteousness. May we not only be zealous and proud of our own rights but may we respect and safeguard the rights of others.

Help us to sincerely endeavor to open up for men and nations everywhere new opportunities for the achievement and enjoyment of the more abundant life.

We pray that we may make a determined effort to put the spirit of our blessed Lord in our policies of government, our business enterprises, and in the whole of life.

May we work faithfully and wait patiently for the coming of a better day.

Hear us in the name of the Master who went about doing good. Amen.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1952

ALMIGHTY AND EVER-BLESSED GOD, may Thy grace, mercy, and peace rest upon us during all the hours of this new day.

Grant that we may respond more eagerly to the lofty aspiration of placing a higher premium on the virtues of integrity, fidelity, and chivalry.

May we never part company with the cardinal virtue of humility or break faith with Thee and our better self. Help us to live out each day in faith, in faithfulness, and in the fear of the Lord.

We pray that all the legislation that we are proposing and seeking to enact may be for Thy glory and for the welfare of the members of the human family and in enabling them to find a healthier and happier and more hopeful way of life.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1952

ETERNAL GOD, OUR FATHER, who art acquainted with our many needs and canst supply them all, wilt Thou touch us with Thy spirit and may we know the secret of joyous and victorious living.

Grant that we may learn how to read and interpret the meaning of life as a quest and a conquest and may live it nobly and helpfully and without fear.

Give us the courage and confidence to believe that we must trust ourselves humbly and heroically to Thy divine power and wisdom if we are to find our way in these confused and troubled times.

We pray that Thou wilt bestow the richest consolations of Thy grace upon the members of the bereaved family and all the citizens of the British Empire as they mourn the death of the beloved King.

Hear us in the name of our blessed Lord who is able to do for us exceeding abundantly above all we can ask or desire. Amen.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1952

O THOU GOD OF ALL HOLINESS AND RIGHTEOUSNESS, grant that, as we begin this new week, we may be numbered among those who are seeking to do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with the Lord.

May every thought of our minds be brought into a glad and willing obedience to the spirit of our Master.

We pray that in these trying times we may be calm in every crisis and steadfast in every strain, placing our confidence in our God whose strength is invincible.

Inspire us to serve our generation according to Thy holy will, and may we have an eye single to Thy glory.

Hear us in the name of the Captain of our Salvation. Amen.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1952

ALMIGHTY GOD, OUR FATHER, Thou hast created us in Thine own image and with a capacity to be like Thee in spirit.

We pray that in this Brotherhood Week we may have a clearer vision of high and helpful things that we may do together for the welfare of all mankind.

Show us how we may release the hidden splendor of humanity and bring to joyous and victorious fulfillment all the nobler aspirations which Thou hast planted within the soul of man.

Grant that we may never harbor within our minds and hearts any attitudes toward our fellow men which are alien to the spirit of our blessed Lord.

Help us to practice the Golden Rule and inspire us with those finer thoughts and feelings which are the progenitors of achievement in the building of a more glorious social order.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1952

ALMIGHTY GOD, whose grace and goodness hallow all our days, we pray that Thou wilt bless the Members of this legislative body as they again come to the sacrament of public service.

Give us the assurance of Thy sustaining and abiding presence as we face tasks which we know are far beyond finite wisdom and strength.

Grant that we may have the confidence that Thy kingdom is coming and that all things are working for good to those who love Thee.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1952

MOST MERCIFUL GOD, may we now again in all humility and with a contrite heart approach Thy throne of grace where none have ever been repelled and from which none have ever gone away without Thy needed blessings.

We pray that we may be girded with wisdom and strength for the duties of each new day. Enable us to go on courageously as we seek to respond to life's high calling. May we never be discouraged and defeated by obstacles and difficulties which we should surmount and overcome.

Keep us from pride when we are successful, from bitterness when we are in distress, from complaint when we are in want, and from despair when we seem to be the victims of untoward and evil circumstances.

In Christ's name we offer our petition. Amen.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1952

O THOU WHO WERT THE GOD OF OUR FATHERS, we thank Thee for this great day in our national history commemorating the life of one of our noblest patriots.

We pray that the memory of his illustrious qualities of character, his lofty idealism, his sturdy common sense, and his faith in divine providence may never become eclipsed or sink into oblivion.

Grant that in our own struggle with the forces of oppression and tyranny and despotism, we may have more of the courageous and valiant and sacrificial spirit of George Washington.

Inspire us to give unflinching fidelity and devotion to those royal principles which were regnant in his soul in order that our beloved country may be one of the architects and builders of universal peace and a better world.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1952

O THOU ETERNAL GOD, in whom our baffled minds and burdened hearts may find strength and sympathy, grant us now the counsel of Thy divine wisdom and the consolation of Thy understanding love.

Give us the assurance of Thy guiding and sustaining presence in these days which are frequently beset with so many anxieties and fears, with difficulties and perplexing problems.

May our beloved country and all our leaders in the affairs of church and state be distinguished by that righteousness and integrity of character which exalts a nation.

Show us how we may bring a larger measure of the blessings of democracy and freedom to all mankind and may the spirit of good will inspire us to seek one another's welfare.

In Christ's name we bring our petition. Amen.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1952

O THOU WHO ART THE SUPREME INTELLIGENCE, show us how we may interpret and decide wisely and rightly the great questions and problems which we are about to consider.

Thou knowest how deeply and vitally concerned we are about the defense and safety of our Republic and the welfare of the whole world.

We humbly confess that our own finite judgment is so faulty and fallible that we cannot predict what lies before us.

Forgive us for sinning against Thee and against ourselves by allowing our minds and hearts to be tortured and tormented with feelings of doubt and despair.

The future belongs to Thee. May we then daily put our trust in Thee and seek Thy divine guidance faithfully and confidently for Thou alone art too wise to err and too kind to injure.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1952

ETERNAL AND EVER-BLESSED GOD, grant that this Lenten season, upon which we are entering today, may inspire us with a greater concern and interest in the culture of our souls.

We penitently confess that our daily life so frequently becomes sodden with materialism and we yield ourselves to a quest for that which dwarfs and deadens our capacities for the loftiest instincts and aspirations.

May this period of inner discipline and self-examination, of cleansing of heart and consecration of purpose, challenge us to the higher and nobler ways of character and conduct.

We pray that the day may be hastened when all men everywhere shall be brought into right relationship with Thee and their fellow men.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1952

O THOU ETERNAL SPIRIT, we pray that this day may be blessed and crowned with the wonder and glory of a God-illumined vision of life's moral and spiritual values.

We humbly acknowledge that it is becoming increasingly clear that we cannot meet and master our human problems without the comradeship and consolation, the inspiration and strength of these sacred spiritual realities.

Grant that they may never be obscured and supplanted by habits of character and conduct that are unworthy of the sons of God.

To Thy name we shall ascribe all the praise. Amen.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 1952

O THOU WHO ART THE SUPREME SOURCE of all wisdom and strength, we are again turning unto Thee in prayer, compelled by our needs.

In these tangled and confused times there are so many problems to solve and so much that is basically and shamefully wrong.

Show us which of our proposals for a strong and adequate national defense are most reasonable and equitable and practical and whether they are in accordance with Thy divine will.

May we have the courage to search and reach out for those ways and means that are righteous and just and for the welfare of all mankind and for Thy glory.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

MONDAY, MARCH 3, 1952

O ETERNAL GOD, OUR SHELTER AND STRENGTH, Thou art ever near to protect us in times of peril and always ready to guide when the way seems shadowy and irrevocably dark.

Grant that during this week we may bring our wills more completely into harmony with Thy divine spirit in order that our frail and finite lives may have unity and purpose, confidence, and courage.

May we daily give ourselves wholly and unreservedly to Thy leading. Cleanse us of all unrighteousness and make us worthy of our blessings.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 1952

O THOU GOD OF ETERNAL WISDOM, JUSTICE, AND RIGHTEOUSNESS, there has been placed upon us the inescapable responsibility of deciding which is the best way to defend our beloved country and preserve the peace of the world.

We humbly and penitently confess that we are confused. We are greatly perplexed and disturbed. There is an honest difference of opinion among us. We are crediting one another with sincerity. Many of our constituents and those whose judgment we value have voiced their views but we are not yet sure how to vote wisely and rightly.

Grant that we may now in all faith and humility submit our proposals and disputes and differences to the high court of heaven and the Supreme Judge of all mankind, beseeching Thee to illumine and inspire and direct us by Thy divine spirit.

Help us to believe that when statesmanship and human ingenuity have done their utmost and their very best that then we must still hold our decision in abeyance until Thou hast declared Thy will.

We pray that the day may be hastened when all our decisions are made with Thy divine approval, and shall appeal to the best judgment of our fellow citizens. Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 1952

ALMIGHTY GOD, whose blessings cannot be numbered and whose treasury of goodness is inexhaustible, we thank Thee for the assurance that there are many reserves and resources of divine wisdom and strength at our command which we have not yet drawn upon.

Grant that daily we may have the unmistakable and joyous testimony of our conscience that, in seeking to solve our problems and meet our respon-

sibilities, we are eagerly availing ourselves of every revelation of Thy holy will which Thou hast placed at our disposal.

May it be the goal of all our aspirations to do that which is well pleasing unto Thee for in the doing of Thy will is our peace.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

MONDAY, MARCH 10, 1952

O THOU GOD OF ALL MAJESTY AND MERCY before whom the angels bow and veil their faces, may our moments of prayer bring us into a blessed communion with Thee and inspire us to live nobly and faithfully.

Grant that we may have a vivid sense of Thy presence and power as we accept the challenge of those imperative duties and demands which we know are far beyond our own wisdom and strength.

Make us so sensitive and responsive to Thy divine leading that we may always seek to do that which will be for the glory and honor of Thy great and holy name.

Hear us for Christ's sake. Amen.

TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 1952

ALMIGHTY GOD, we beseech Thee to guide, sustain, and encourage us in all the noble and worthy undertakings of this day.

May each new day be better than yesterday and prophetic of a radiant tomorrow as we strive to be coworkers with Thee and with one another in the great moral and spiritual enterprise of achieving blessedness for all mankind.

We penitently confess that there are times when the ideals which we cherish seem so visionary, the outlook for a finer social order appears so gloomy, our loftiest impulses are frustrated, and our hearts are filled with fear and foreboding.

Forgive us for allowing doubt and cynicism to find lodgment in our souls and for permitting any sinister thoughts and feelings to eclipse our faith, blur our hope, and extinguish our love.

May we be confident that we have not been created for failure but for victory and that in Thine own good time all Thy gracious promises shall be gloriously fulfilled.

In Christ's name we offer our prayers. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 1952

O THOU WHO ART THE ONLY SOURCE of light and hope in these days that are shrouded in darkness, and as we look wistfully and anxiously toward the future, grant that we may know the secret of triumphant and joyous living.

May we daily reaffirm our faith in Thee, confident that none of the hopes and longings for peace, which Thou dost vouchsafe unto our minds and hearts, are too lofty to be fulfilled by Thy divine wisdom and power.

Show us how we may strengthen the bonds of brotherhood. May our hearts go out in sympathy and our hands in helpfulness to men and nations everywhere in their struggles and sorrows.

Enable us by Thy grace to gain for ourselves and others the mastery over all trials and tribulations and may the spirit of our blessed Lord be the strength of our souls, His truth our shield, His companionship our joy.

In His name we pray. Amen.

THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 1952

O THOU ETERNAL PRESENCE, as we pray together, we would thank Thee for the gift of a new day, challenging us to lay hold of those ideals and principles which invest life with dignity and worth.

Inspire us with a more vivid and satisfying sense of the great divine realities and resources as we face the many opportunities that beckon us to heroic endeavor and noble service.

We humbly confess that we are so slow to see that our human life has no standards and stability, no defense against despair and defeat, no bulwarks against communism and chaos unless we cultivate faith in Thee and in the moral and spiritual values.

Grant that during this day we may yield ourselves to the spirit of our blessed Lord whose mind is wiser than our own, whose strength is invincible, and whose peace will keep us calm and courageous.

Hear us in His name. Amen.

MONDAY, MARCH 17, 1952

ALMIGHTY GOD, may we begin this new week with a clearer vision of Thy greatness and goodness; for then no task, however difficult, and no experience, however tragic, can darken our minds and obscure our hopes.

We pray that we may never feel that our life is in the grasp of a blind fate that neither knows nor cares, but give us the glad assurance that we are in the safekeeping of a God whose name is Love.

Grant that by Thy grace we may triumph over all our doubts and fears and quit ourselves like men who are serving their day and generation with faith and courage.

Inspire us with an increasing sense of human solidarity and social responsibility, reminding us that we are members one of another and that in ministering to the needs of humanity we are doing Thy will and fulfilling Thy law.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 1952

O THOU ETERNAL GOD, whose beneficent spirit is here and everywhere, daily we are bringing unto Thee problems we cannot solve and the questions for which we have no answer.

We penitently confer that there is something tragically wrong with our civilization and our social order. We are baffled and wistfully bewildered. There seems to be a blind spot in our thinking and living. Is it because we have allowed materialism and humanism to become our way of life?

We pray that Thou wilt lift mankind out of these atheistic and agnostic tempers of mind. Make us sensitive and responsive to the spiritual realities. Fill us with a joyous and victorious faith in the Lord God omnipotent.

Inspire the members of the family of nations with a greater faith in one another. May the spirit of man be more considerate and compassionate, more gentle and gracious, more magnanimous and unselfish.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 1952

O THOU WHOSE FAITHFULNESS REACHES UNTO THE CLOUDS, we pray that fidelity may also be one of the cardinal and crowning virtues of our lives.

We humbly confess that the strength and security of our beloved country are in peril and in jeopardy today because many of our citizens are no longer placing a very high premium on this virtue of fidelity to moral and spiritual standards.

Help us to recognize the primacy and need of a greater fidelity to Thee as the basis and inspiration of all other fidelities.

Grant that our fidelity to Thee may be so clear and commanding, so consistent and courageous, that others may also feel the urge to cultivate and maintain this virtue in their relationship to Thee and their fellow men.

To Thy name we ascribe all the glory. Amen.

THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 1952

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS GOD, may our moments of prayer inspire us to live worthily, faithfully, and helpfully.

Grant that we may see and understand more clearly that the measure of our faith and trust in Thee will be the measure of our joy and courage.

May we give ourselves loyally and wholeheartedly to the things which we believe and know are righteous and just and true.

We beseech Thee that we may endeavor to do Thy will more perfectly, for in the doing of Thy will is our peace.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 1952

ALMIGHTY AND EVER-BLESSED GOD, as we continue in the business of this new day, may we be conscious of the creative and cooperative presence and power of the spiritual factors and forces.

Make us see that we cannot solve any of our human problems without Thy help and that all our efforts will end in futility and failure unless we have divine guidance

Lift our timid and trembling spirits out of the doubts and fears which make us cowards, into the glorious faith that enables us to go forth as conquerors, courageous and invincible.

Grant that our lives may be strong in the integrity which remains steadfast in times of trial and temptation.

May we be patient and hopeful in the hours of darkness when all earthly lights are eclipsed and extinguished by adversity.

In Christ's name we bring our petition. Amen.

MONDAY, MARCH 24, 1952

O THOU ETERNAL GOD, in this moment of prayer we are seeking with one accord to know Thy holy will and to be governed and guided by it.

We acknowledge how slow and stupid we are in understanding that apart from Thee there is no hope that our dreams and desires for a nobler civilization will ever be fulfilled.

Grant that we may hold our own wishes in abeyance and begin each day with the prayer, "Lord what wilt Thou have me be and do?"

We pray that our listless and languid spirits may be quickened into newness of faith and hope, and may we be confident that better days are dawning when all the needs of humanity shall be supplied.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 1952

ALMIGHTY GOD, as we unite our hearts in a prayer of penitence and confession, of praise and adoration, of supplication and intercession, wilt Thou bestow upon us the blessings which we most need.

Forgive us for so often seeking merely the transient and temporal blessings, which will minister to our epicurean desires, and with little concern for the abiding and eternal spiritual blessings.

Grant that the life of our Republic may be more firmly rooted in the moral principles and that we may be a people whose God is the Lord, striving to bring in the kingdom of righteousness, justice, freedom, and fraternity.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 1952

O THOU GOD OF INFINITE MIGHT AND MERCY, and of transcendent greatness and goodness, grant that in the crisis and confusion of our day we may have a sense of Thy presence to sustain our faith and strengthen our souls.

We humbly acknowledge that our vision of a better day is so often blurred with misgiving and we feel the need of that help which is beyond the power of man to give.

We pray that we may be numbered among those who know how to keep the light of hope and courage aglow in these dark times and may we never surrender to defeatism and despair.

May the day be hastened when there shall be peace on earth and good will among men.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 1952

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS GOD we are again coming unto Thee with the glad assurance that Thou art willing and able to do for us, both materially and spiritually, above all that we can ask or think.

Grant that we may never seek Thee in prayer merely to have Thee further our own selfish material interests and ends, but may it be our supreme desire to cultivate a deeper spiritual life and to be used by Thee in fulfilling Thy wise and holy will.

We pray that daily we may grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour whom to know aright is life eternal, and may we seek to bring in that day when His ideals and principles of righteousness and justice shall prevail everywhere.

Hear us in His name. Amen.

MONDAY, MARCH 31, 1952

ALMIGHTY GOD, who art the source and strength of our life and the supreme Lord of our minds and hearts, may we daily surrender ourselves unreservedly to Thy divine will, which is infinitely wiser than our own.

Inspire us with a new appreciation and deeper reverence for the sacred word and spiritual values as the foundation stones upon which to build a nobler personal character, a stronger nation, and a finer civilization.

Show us how we may stem the tides of paganism and secularism and be obedient and loyal to those lofty instincts and capacities with which we have been created and endowed.

May the Voice of America not be primarily one that proclaims what our Nation possesses and produces in material goods but may it be a voice that proclaims plainly and proudly those ideals and principles which have been and are the secret of our country's greatness and glory.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 1952

ETERNAL GOD, OUR FATHER, in this moment of prayer, may our spirits be brought into a blessed harmony with Thy spirit and into a glad obedience to Thy holy will.

We penitently confess that our lives, our plans, and purposes are often at variance with the ways which Thou hast marked out for us.

Grant that in the business of statecraft we may have the common sense and wisdom to recognize our dependence upon Thee.

May it be the goal of all our efforts and endeavors to do those things that are well pleasing unto Thee. May we be confident that the day is coming when the forces of reason and righteousness shall be gloriously triumphant.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 1952

ALMIGHTY GOD, may we enter upon the duties and responsibilities of this day with a new appreciation of the spiritual resources which Thou hast placed at our disposal and which we may appropriate by faith.

We acknowledge that again and again we are guilty of the incredible folly of trying to conduct and carry on the affairs of government without seeking Thy divine guidance and help.

Grant that we may have the joy of knowing that we are coworkers with Thee in bringing in that time when every need shall be supplied and there will be peace everywhere.

Show us how we may conquer our doubts and be healed of our discouragements. May we meet every critical situation with unflinching courage. Grant that we may never retreat or give up in despair.

Hear us in the name of the Captain of our salvation. Amen.

THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 1952

O THOU GREAT GOD OF ALL MANKIND, may this day be rich and glorious in the revelation and realization of Thy presence, peace, and power to strengthen and sustain us in our many unforeseen and unknown experiences.

May our whole life be a quest and pursuit of the things that are noble and true and a conquest and victory over everything that would undermine our character and corrupt our souls.

Inspire us with faith and hope as we encounter difficult domestic and foreign problems. May our vision of the ultimate triumph of truth and righteousness be so clear and commanding that we shall never yield to cynicism and despair.

We thank Thee for the character and ministry of Thy servant who walked and worked with us and whose spirit Thou hast called to that more abundant life, free from the cares and fatigues of earth. Grant unto the members of his bereaved family the consolation of Thy grace.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 1952

O THOU SUPREME COUNSELOR OF OUR MINDS and companion of our hearts, we pray that Thy holy spirit may daily take full possession of our lives transforming them into centers of light and joy, of insight and inspiration, of sympathy and love.

Grant that above all the harsh and discordant notes of selfishness and suspicion, of cruelty and hatred, men and nations may hear and heed the still small voice calling us to faith and friendship, to peace and good will.

Fill us with a passionate longing to have a larger share in administering to the welfare and happiness of sorrowing and struggling humanity. May our beloved country be used by Thee in mediating to mankind everywhere the blessings of freedom and democracy, and in building a finer social order and a better world.

Hear us in the name of our blessed Lord who went about doing good. Amen.

MONDAY, APRIL 7, 1952

O THOU WHO ART OUR STRENGTH AND SALVATION, may our minds and hearts be filled with penitence and repentance, with humility and gratitude, as we contemplate the solemn and sacred meaning of the closing days in the earthly life and ministry of our blessed Lord.

Grant that we may commemorate reverently the events of a week which is hallowed by that Name which is above every name. We call it Holy Week but we humbly confess that our thoughts of holiness are often so superficial and unworthy.

We acknowledge that we have failed to aspire to achieve that holiness of character which we find in our Master and which we know is the secret of our own happiness.

Help us to understand that if we are to be partners with Him in the great task of redeeming and saving mankind then we also must have more of that spirit of love, which is willing to sacrifice.

Hear us in our Saviour's name. Amen.

TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 1952

O THOU WHO HAST ENTRUSTED US with the high vocation of public service, grant that we may know how to discern and interpret rightly Thy wise and gracious purpose for all mankind.

May we bear calm and courageous testimony to a steadfast and unwavering confidence in that divine wisdom which never errs and that divine strength which will never fail.

We pray that we may seek to be used by Thee and our beloved country in lifting the shadow of fear from human hearts everywhere and in leading them into the joy and liberty of the Son of God.

At the close of each day may we receive the benediction of peace which Thou dost bestow upon all who live by faith, labor faithfully, and walk humbly with the Lord.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 1952

ALMIGHTY GOD, whose infinite wisdom our finite minds cannot comprehend and whose amazing love our sinful hearts cannot fathom, we rejoice that when there was no eye to pity and no arm to save, then in the fullness of time Thou didst give Thine only begotten Son to be the Saviour of the world.

Grant that in these days of Holy Week we may be filled with penitence and humility as we meditate upon the sufferings and death of the great

Captain of our salvation, the High Priest, who laid upon the altar the acceptable sacrifice of His own life for the sins of the world.

We pray that, as we turn to the cross, we may hear and heed His voice saying, "This I have done for thee, what wilt thou do for Me?" May we also seek to share in His redemptive ministry and be inspired by His spirit of love to help meet the needs of struggling humanity, lifting and leading men and nations into a more blessed fellowship with Thee and with one another.

Hear us in our Saviour's name. Amen.

FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 1952

(First Prayer Sent From Capitol Hill Over the Voice of America, Offered on Good Friday by the Chaplain of the United States House of Representatives)

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS GOD, whose infinite wisdom our finite minds cannot comprehend and whose amazing love our sinful hearts cannot fathom, we thank Thee for this Holy Week, proclaiming the glad tidings that when there was no eye to pity and no arm to save, then, in the fullness of time, Thou didst give Thine only begotten Son to be the Saviour of the world.

We pray that the memory of this Blessed Week may hallow all our days and may we be inspired by His spirit of love and sacrifice to share in His Redemptive Ministry and help meet the needs of struggling and suffering humanity, lifting and leading all, who dwell in darkness and bondage, into the light and liberty of the sons of God.

We humbly and penitently confess that there is something tragically wrong with civilization in these days of chaos and confusion, when the heart of man is filled with fear and foreboding. Is it because mankind has lost its faith in Thee and is allowing the devasting philosophy of atheism to determine and influence its way of life? Help us to recognize the need and primacy of a greater faith and loyalty to Thee as the source and inspiration of our confidence and fidelity to one another as individuals and as nations.

Grant that, as we observe the Blessed Easter season, commemorating the Resurrection of our Lord, we also may rise with Him into newness of spirit, making our whole life a quest and a pursuit of those things that are righteous and true, and a conquest and a victory over everything that undermines man's character and corrupts his soul.

May it be the goal of all our aspirations and endeavors to hasten the dawning of that day of prediction when men shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks and the hidden splendor of those nobler instincts and capacities, with which mankind has been created

and endowed, shall be forever released and the spirit of man shall be too strong for chains and too large for imprisonment.

God forbid that we should ever surrender to defeatism or despair as we pray and labor for world peace, but may the chosen representatives and citizens of God-fearing and peace-loving nations everywhere continue to be courageous and loyal partners with the risen Christ and with one another in the glorious enterprise of building a finer social order and that better world when the chasms which divide and separate the members of the human family shall be bridged by the spirit of good will and brotherhood.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 1952

O THOU ETERNAL GOD, as we again assemble in this Chamber, we would render unto Thee the tribute of our heartfelt praise for by Thy mercies we have been spared and by Thy presence and power we are daily sustained.

May we appreciate and understand more fully how sacred and wonderful it is that in facing difficult tasks and heavy responsibilities, we may lift our minds and hearts unto Thee from whom cometh every needed blessing.

Grant that in seeking to legislate for the highest welfare of our beloved country and in ministering to the needs of struggling humanity we may be guided by spiritual principles and endowed with divine wisdom.

Let the words of our mouth and the meditations of our heart be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, our strength and our Redeemer. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 1952

O THOU WHO HAST CALLED US TO POSITIONS OF LEADERSHIP in the service of our country and needy humanity we pray that we may accept and discharge our duties and responsibilities with unfaltering faith and indomitable courage.

Grant that we may be used by Thee in courageously championing every noble cause and in fearlessly denouncing everything that is wrong and that violates the rights of man. May the righteousness and justice of God find a voice in all our plans and proposals, our deliberations and decisions.

May we never be stoically and selfishly indifferent to the needs of others but may we honestly strive to legislate for the good and happiness of men everywhere.

Hear us in the name of the Christ who came to be the servant and saviour of all. Amen.

THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 1952

ALMIGHTY GOD, who art the source of life and light, of insight and inspiration, may we be conscious of the directing power of Thy spirit as we

endeavor to find the right answer to the difficult problems of our day and generation.

Grant that we may never make terms with doubt and despair but may we fortify and strengthen our souls with a greater faith that the Lord God omnipotent rules the universe.

Help us to realize that the problems of humanity cannot be solved on a merely economic basis and that it is not enough to provide mankind with food and raiment and shelter.

May we have the wisdom to see and understand that man, created in the divine image, cannot live by bread alone and that he needs and longs for the spiritual blessings of the kingdom of God.

Hear us in the name of the Christ who came to show us the way to the more abundant life. Amen.

MONDAY, APRIL 28, 1952

ALMIGHTY AND EVER-GRACIOUS GOD, we thank Thee for this new day affording us many glorious opportunities for the culture of our souls and for heroic endeavor and noble service.

We humbly confess that we are frequently baffled and bewildered by the mysteries and dilemmas of life, its struggles and strifes, its tragedies and tribulations.

Grant that, as we encounter its stern demands and difficulties, there may come to us a new nativity of a faith that never fails and a courage that never falters.

Help us to see that if our Nation is to be invulnerable and invincible then we must not only mobilize our mightiest material, weapons, and physical resources, but, above all, our moral and spiritual forces.

Hear us in the name of the Captain of our Salvation. Amen.

TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 1952

O THOU GOD OF ALL MAJESTY AND MERCY, with gratitude and gladness we are again turning unto Thee in the sacred attitude of prayer, for Thou art acquainted with our many needs.

Thou alone canst answer the difficult questions which haunt our minds and satisfy the wistful longings which stir our hearts.

We rejoice that Thou art always willing to share with us Thy divine wisdom and to show us the way out of the darkness and confusion and frustrations in which we so often find ourselves.

Give us the glad assurance that the day of prediction is dawning when every need shall be supplied and peace and freedom will be the blessings of men everywhere.

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We thank Thee for the life and character of Thy servant whom Thou hast called to dwell with Thee in eternal blessedness. Wilt Thou grant unto the members of his bereaved family the consolation of Thy grace.

In Christ's name we offer our prayers. Amen.

MONDAY, MAY 5, 1952

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS GOD, whose thoughts toward us are those of love and peace, give us now that confidence which, in the midst of difficulties and dangers, casts itself undismayed and unperplexed upon the Lord.

Grant that we may never allow infidelity and disbelief to invade and infiltrate the sanctuary of our souls and cause us to live negatively and hopelessly.

Inspire us to live affirmatively and faithfully, assured that where Thou dost lead and guide, Thou wilt also provide.

May we help men everywhere to be loyal to the loftiest ideals and principles, releasing and lifting their troubled spirits out of fear into faith, out of bondage into freedom, and out of defeat into victory.

Hear us in the name of the Christ. Amen.

TUESDAY, MAY 6, 1952

O THOU SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD, we thank Thee for our moments of prayer in the midst of days that are strange and strenuous, and at times so very dark and gloomy.

Thou knowest that always and everywhere we need Thee; in our struggles to sustain us; in our sorrows to comfort us; in our perplexities to guide us; in our trials and tribulations to keep us from yielding to discouragement and despair.

Inspire us to put our minds and hearts on the side of faith in Thee and in ourselves and in our fellow men, and may our souls be sensitive and responsive to the promptings and persuasions of Thy holy spirit.

Lead us in the ways of righteousness and justice and in the paths of good will and peace. Temper our minds with the spirit of forgiveness and forbearance, and may we seek one another's welfare.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 1952

Almighty God, our Father, as we again lift our hearts unto Thee in prayer, we are beseeching Thee for those blessings which we most need for this new day and which are beyond the power of man to give.

Grant that we may now surrender our spirits to the guidance of Thy spirit, humbly, sincerely, completely, gratefully, and gladly. May our lives always be radiant with a sense of Thy presence, thankful with an appreciation of Thy goodness, and joyous with an assurance of Thy love and care.

We pray that daily we may experience and bear testimony to the reality of our faith in Thee, its vitality and validity, its inspiration and power, its peace and joy. Show us how we may keep the light of faith and righteousness and truth aglow in these dark times.

Fill us with an earnest longing to help forward the time when there shall be a new birth of Thy divine spirit in the heart of man, transforming hatred into love, selfishness into service, and sin into goodness.

In Christ's name we bring our petition. Amen.

MONDAY, MAY 12, 1952

O Thou great God of our hearts, our homes, and our beloved country, we thank Thee for that sacred day in the calendar of church and state, called Mothers' Day, which we were again privileged to observe and which we are beginning to realize is so full of eternal significance in helping us to achieve national and individual greatness of character.

We rejoice that in obedience to a noble and tender instinct we were joyously constrained to pay honor and tribute to the blessed memory of mothers no longer with us in the flesh and to render gratitude and reverence for the glorious ministry of mothers who are still here to share with us their love and companionship.

Grant that the observance of Mothers' Day may hallow our minds and hearts with a prayerful longing to make every heart and home in our Republic a sacred shrine of God-fearing righteousness.

May all our citizens be inspired to cultivate the noblest ideals and be strengthened to meet the duties and responsibilities of life with that mastery which can only be gained in homes that fear the Lord.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

TUESDAY, MAY 13, 1952

INFINITE AND ETERNAL GOD, as we reverently call upon Thy great and holy name, may we have a deeper appreciation of the needed wisdom and strength which are available and mediated unto us through faith and prayer.

Inspire us with a greater confidence in Thy righteous plans and purposes which can never fail or be thwarted as we face a future with problems that our finite minds cannot foresee and solve.

We pray that we may have a heartfelt sympathy and concern for the welfare and freedom and happiness of all mankind and grant that in every humanitarian cause we may labor together as partners and friends.

May we never lose our vision of the coming of that glorious day when all the aspirations and achievements of man shall be in accord and harmony with Thy divine will.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 1952

O THOU BLESSED AND ETERNAL GOD, grant that during this day our minds and hearts may be touched and strengthened with a reassuring sense of Thy greatness and goodness.

May the words of our mouths, the meditations of our hearts, and the work of our hands always be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, our strength and our Redeemer. Amen.

Memorial Services

INVOCATION

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast revealed Thyself as man's unfailing friend, his everpresent help and everlasting hope, we pray that in this hour of sacred memory we may enter into a blessed communion with Thy spirit and with the spirit of all who are dwelling in Thy nearer presence and upon whom Thou hast bestowed the benediction, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

PRAYER

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS GOD, from whom our spirits have come and unto whom they return, we rejoice that through Thy holy word Thou hast spoken unto us.

We thank Thee that when earthly and human lights are extinguished by adversity and affliction, by sorrow and bereavement, then Thy divinely

inspired word, which is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path, shines with a deeper and steadier glow and we are strengthened to carry on courageously and hopefully.

Grant that in our times of loneliness, when the struggle of life seems so difficult and the burdens so heavy, we may not turn our eyes upon the ground whence no help can come but may we turn them heavenward and unto Thee.

We praise Thee for the life and character of Thy servants who walked and worked with us for a little upon the earth and who are now with Thee in eternal blessedness, having received the reward of their faith and fidelity, even the salvation of their souls.

We have not said "farewell" unto them but only "good night," confident that some day, by Thy grace, we shall again dwell with them in hallowed union in that land whose language is music and where joys are unceasing.

We pray that, as we continue our earthly pilgrimage, we may live out each day in faith and in faithfulness, availing ourselves of the companionship of our blessed Lord, who will abide with us throughout life and eternity.

Hear us in the name of the Christ our Saviour. Amen.

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 1952

O THOU WHO ART HUMANITY'S GRACIOUS BENEFACTOR, we are again beseeching Thee for the blessings of wisdom and strength, of faith and fortitude, of humility and patience, as we endeavor to be the heralds of a new day and the builders of a better world.

Grant that our minds and hearts each day may become increasingly strong and steadfast in the possession and power of moral and spiritual principles and in the assurance that Thou hast placed at our disposal the inexhaustible resources of Thy grace.

Help us to understand that the achievement of a nobler civilization can only be possible in terms of the ideals and teachings of the Sermon on the Mount.

Give us the vision to see that if our Nation, in the providence of God, is to play the divinely ordained and appointed part in the world reconciliation and peace, and in mankind's salvation and security, then, as leaders in Government, we must apply the beautiful, the profound, and the ancient wisdom of the Prince of Peace.

Hear us in His name. Amen.

MONDAY, MAY 19, 1952

O THOU WHO HAST BROUGHT US TO THE BEGINNING OF A NEW WEEK, show us how we may rightly adopt and adjust ourselves to these strenuous and swiftly changing days with their many unforeseen and tangled problems.

Help us to lay hold of the great resources of divine wisdom for Thou art too wise to err and too kind to injure.

We pray that in our high calling of public service we may meet our tasks and responsibilities with confidence and courage, for Thou will guide and provide.

Grant that in serving our generation we may earnestly seek to help mankind receive and enjoy its God-ordained human rights and blessings of freedom and peace.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

TUESDAY, MAY 20, 1952

ALMIGHTY GOD, who art the inspiration and strength of the true, the beautiful, and the good, give us now a clearer and fuller vision of Thy righteous purposes as we take counsel together in the affairs of statecraft.

May we have the courage to believe that none of the baffling problems that we are struggling with are beyond the reach of Thy divine wisdom and power.

We pray that we may know how to fortify our minds and hearts against all those corrupting influences and evil forces which are continually seeking to undermine our character and destroy the noble principles of our Republic.

May we authenticate and bear witness to the reality and validity of our democracy by extending the spirit of good will and brotherhood over all the barriers of race and color, of clan and creed.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 1952

O THOU MERCIFUL AND OMNIPOTENT GOD, whose loving kindness and beneficent purposes are always directed toward our welfare and happiness, we pray that we may be more eager to accept and respond to Thy gracious overtures.

We penitently and humbly confess that in these days of misgiving and surrounding darkness our self-willed and rebellious hearts are being softened and made suppliant for we are becoming increasingly aware of our weakness and helplessness and our desperate need of Thee.

We beseech Thee that the time may speedily come when men and nations everywhere shall allow their minds to be guided by the counsels of Thy holy word and all mankind shall seek to incarnate the ideals of our blessed Lord.

Inspire us to give ourselves earnestly and resolutely to the great task of establishing Thy kingdom of righteousness and peace upon this earth.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

THURSDAY, MAY 22, 1952

O THOU WHO ART OUR REFUGE AND STRENGTH AND OUR HELP in time of trouble, we are daily beseeching Thee to bestow upon us the blessings of divine wisdom and guidance.

Thou knowest how greatly concerned and disturbed we are about the present condition and welfare of our beloved country and the problems of its defense and security.

We pray that we may be inspired with an indomitable courage and determination to save our Republic from corruption and degeneracy.

Grant that the virtues of righteousness and the fear of God may be enthroned in our national life, for history shows us very clearly and conclusively that these virtues are the only sure protection against all that is debasing and the only absolute guaranty and assurance of a nation's prosperity and perpetuity.

Wilt Thou create and stimulate in the hearts of all leaders, civilian and military, a lofty and unflinching sense of duty and responsibility in helping our democracy attain unto the highest possible standards of living and efficiency. May our democracy be rich and strong in the spirit of good will and brotherhood.

Hear us in the name of the Captain of our salvation. Amen.

MONDAY, MAY 26, 1952

ALMIGHTY GOD, as we continue to go forth in this new week, may we bear witness to the moral and spiritual mettle of our character by daily walking the path of duty, serenely and steadfastly, humbly and faithfully.

May we never allow our minds and hearts to be mastered by low ideals or become the victims of fear when we face hardships and heavy responsibilities.

Grant that all leaders and representatives in government and in the political life of our Republic may have a clear vision of the glory of being true to their high vocation.

Give us the confidence that nothing can ever eclipse or destroy the greatness and strength of our Nation if we are determined to enthrone righteousness and justice and keep inviolate our devotion to Thy divine laws. Help us to bring peace upon this earth.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

TUESDAY, MAY 27, 1952

O THOU ETERNAL GOD, in this moment of worship and communion, may we be inspired to reach out to higher levels of thought and living.

Grant that we may be reverently and joyously appreciative of our material and spiritual blessings and always interpret their possession and use in terms of stewardship by our willingness to share them with needy humanity.

We pray that as Americans we may take the duties and obligations of citizenship more seriously and have an exalted conception of what it means to be a free and law-abiding people.

Help us to hasten the time when men everywhere shall follow the teachings of our blessed Lord and do Thy will more perfectly.

In Christ's name we offer our petition. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 1952

ALMIGHTY GOD, whose will and wisdom are supreme, we are daily beseeching Thee for divine guidance as we seek to build our beloved country on the foundation of righteousness and justice, of peace and good will.

Grant that we may live and labor for its welfare, inspired by loyalty and devotion to our glorious American tradition and by a sincere desire to maintain and enhance them.

May all our citizens be eager to express their gratitude and patriotism by making every sacrifice to defend our democracy against the forces of evil and aggression.

We pray that our hopes and longings for our country may be permeated with something more than a selfish ambition to achieve material greatness, but may it be the goal of all our aspirations to make America a God-fearing and spiritually minded Nation.

Hear us in the name of Thy Son, our Lord. Amen.

THURSDAY, MAY 29, 1952

O THOU WHO ART MAN'S INFALLIBLE COUNSELOR, grant that our perplexing social, economic, and political problems, which we are daily struggling with, may make us more conscious of our need of Thee.

We penitently confess that we so frequently try to solve these problems without seeking Thy divine guidance, only to find that our plans and efforts terminate in futility and failure.

Help us to feel that our primary and most pressing responsibility is to lead our groping and troubled world back to God and to help build the kingdom of righteousness and peace upon this earth.

We pray that in all our proposals and programs for the well-being of our country, we may never forget that righteousness alone will exalt us and that blessed is that people whose God is the Lord.

Hear us in the name of the Christ. Amen.

TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 1952

O THOU GOD OF ALL GRACE, may we be inspired with indomitable courage and an invincible faith in the ultimate triumph of moral and spiritual forces as we face arduous tasks and heavy responsibilities.

We pray that we may not allow ourselves to become the victims of any cynical attitudes and feelings that present-day situations and conditions are so hopelessly wrong that all our efforts to change and put them right are useless and will only end in failure.

Show us how we may conquer our moods of discouragement and depression and cultivate a stronger and more dynamic confidence in Thy divine wisdom, for Thou art too wise to err and too kind to injure.

May the Members of the Congress daily give clear and convincing testimony that they are men and women of lofty vision, of fine insight, and of unconquerable hope as they seek to build a better world and a finer social order.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 1952

O THOU INFINITE AND ETERNAL GOD, we rejoice that Thou art able and willing to give us the wisdom and strength which we need for the duties and responsibilities of each new-born day.

Humbly and reverently we are waiting upon Thee as we again hold counsel together in this Chamber. May we honestly seek to know Thy will and apply it to all our problems.

Grant that in spite of the contradictions and confusion of life and its fears and frustrations we may continue to trust that Thou art God over all, transcendent and triumphant.

Help us to place our confidence in Thy promises that Thou wilt never forsake the righteous and wilt always keep them in perfect peace whose minds and hearts are stayed on Thee.

In Christ's name we offer our prayer. Amen.

THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 1952

ALMIGHTY GOD, who art always seeking to make our hearts the sanctuaries of Thy presence, may we be eager to have Thy spirit fashion and direct our desires and plans in harmony with Thy divine will for in Thy will is our peace.

May our faith in Thee and in Thy love and care never falter when we are in sore straits and, when confronted by the forces of evil, we are groping our way to a more peaceful and joyous kind of life.

Give us the glad assurance that we are not alone in our days of hardship and adversity, for Thou wilt never let us go and allow us to suffer defeat if we aspire and determine to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with the Lord.

Show us how we may release the hidden splendor in the soul of man and bring to fulfillment and fruition that beautiful and glorious something which we were all made to be and meant to be.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

MONDAY, JUNE 9, 1952

ETERNAL GOD, OUR FATHER, we are again lifting our minds and hearts unto Thee in our prayers of adoration, confession, thanksgiving, supplication, and intercession.

Thou alone knowest our many needs and how absolutely dependent we are upon Thee for our blessings.

Grant that the day of glorious prediction may soon come when every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Thou art the God of all mankind.

Inspire us with a sincere and loyal devotion to the lofty ideals and principles of truth and justice and with a courage to proclaim and defend Thee. Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 1952

ALMIGHTY GOD, we are daily approaching Thy throne of majesty and mercy, compelled by our many needs, constrained by Thy love, and encouraged by every gracious invitation in Thy holy word.

Grant that our aspirations and actions, our plans and purposes, our deliberations and decisions may all witness to our sincere longing to provide and share with mankind a larger measure of health and happiness, of peace and prosperity, of safety and security, and the blessings which we so richly enjoy.

May the members of the human family be more closely united in the bonds of friendship and good will and mutual service as they seek to build a nobler civilization.

To Thy name we give all the praise. Amen.

THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 1952

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS GOD, who hast created all things for our wonder and our delight, we pray that we may be faithful and worthy stewards of Thy manifold spiritual and material blessings.

Grant that the culture of our moral and spiritual life may keep pace with all the increase of material prosperity that we are privileged to achieve and enjoy.

Show us how we may enter more sympathetically and helpfully into the thoughts and feelings of those whose lives are less fortunate than ours and who are daily groping their way in search for happiness and blessedness.

May the principles and ideals of our blessed Lord animate and inspire our minds and hearts in our longings and endeavor to promote the spirit of peace and good will among all mankind.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

TUESDAY, JUNE 17, 1952

ALMIGHTY AND ETERNAL GOD, wilt Thou hallow and sanctify, guide and strengthen our lives during this day as we seek to solve our many difficult national and international problems.

Expand and enlarge our minds and hearts with a healing sympathy for needy humanity. Deepen and widen our interest in every effort and plan to minister to its safety and security, its sorrows and struggles.

Grant that we may stand in the noble succession and the sublime tradition of all who, in every generation, have given themselves so sincerely and sacrificially for the liberties and welfare of mankind.

May we have an eye single to Thy glory and hold our own wishes in abeyance until Thou dost declare Thy will.

Hear our prayer in the name of Him who is the Lord and Master of us all. Amen.

THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 1952

GOD OF ALL GRACE, as we turn our thoughts toward Thee in the sacred attitude of prayer, we are beseeching Thee to lead us to the deep inner springs of wisdom and power.

Grant that we may enter upon each new day with faith and courage, confident that the glorious vision of a better world can never be eclipsed and that Thy righteous purposes can never be defeated.

We pray that we may inspire and encourage men and nations to cultivate those finer feelings of good will and cooperation upon which the hope of humanity depends.

Show us how we may bring the members of the human family into a closer and more brotherly fellowship. May they see that the things which they have in common are far more wonderful and precious than the things which divide and separate them.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

FRIDAY, JUNE 20, 1952

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS GOD, whose truth is our light and hope, may our moments of prayer draw us together in greater unity of spirit as we plan and labor for the welfare of our country and all mankind.

Quicken us with lofty and holy aspirations and may we feel that it is our highest wisdom and joy, our noblest responsibility and privilege to enthrone Thy will and to establish Thy kingdom of justice and righteousness upon the earth.

Grant that through our example and influence, our loyalty and devotion, the cause of peace may be advanced and men everywhere may be inspired to walk in the way of Thy commandments.

At last save us in Christ's name. Amen.

MONDAY, JUNE 23, 1952

ALMIGHTY GOD, we are again offering unto Thee our prayers of praise and petition.

Strengthen and sustain us during this day with the fellowship of Thy presence and the endowment of Thy power.

May we be of one mind with all who seek Thy will, and of one purpose with all who serve Thee.

Show us how we may develop new capacities of insight and interpretation, of patience and perseverance, of achievement and victory as we face difficult problems.

In all our perplexities and uncertainties, may we trust and commit ourselves with courage and confidence to the guidance of Thy divine spirit which is infinitely wiser than our own.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 1952

ALMIGHTY AND EVER-BLESSED GOD, who hast revealed Thyself as the Supreme Intelligence, we pray that we may begin, continue, and end each new day with a greater confidence in Thy wise and beneficent purposes.

May all who represent our beloved country in the affairs of government be guided in some special way by the eternal truth and wisdom and righteousness of God.

Give us the glad assurance that where Thou dost guide Thou wilt also provide. To Thy name we shall ascribe all the praise and glory, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 1952

INFINITE AND ETERNAL GOD, humbly and reverently we are again coming unto Thee in the sacred attitude of prayer with our many needs and longings.

Grant that in the midst of the world's struggles and tribulations we may cleave with increasing tenacity of faith and courage to the abiding truth that nothing can ever impede the progress and triumph of Thy Kingdom of reason and righteousness.

We pray that we may labor more earnestly for universal peace and do all within our power to lead the spirit of man out of the bondage of hatred and selfishness into the glorious light of love and brotherhood.

May the day soon come when all nations shall have a clearer vision and understanding of the utter futility and waste and insanity of war and see that war is hell and the brutal destruction of human life and property and nobody can make anything else out of it.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

TUESDAY, JULY 1, 1952

ALMIGHTY GOD, who art daily crowning our lives with Thy grace and goodness, grant that we may be blessed with more of Thy infallible wisdom and invincible strength.

May we be strong and valiant for the truth and courageous in championing every legislative program that will bring a larger measure of prosperity and happiness to our country and all mankind.

We pray that all the laws which we are enacting may be the expression of Thy divine will. May we find our joy and delight in using our blessings and resources to help make life less difficult and burdensome for needy and struggling humanity.

We thank Thee for the life and character of Thy servant who faithfully ministered here for so many years in spiritual things and whose soul now dwells with Thee in eternal blessedness. Grant unto the members of his bereaved family the consolation of Thy grace.

Hear us in Christ's name. Amen.

THURSDAY, JULY 3, 1952

ALMIGHTY GOD, we thank Thee for this new day with the glorious revelation of Thy grace and beneficent care and its many opportunities for service in behalf of our needy world.

Grant that our minds and hearts may turn instinctively to obedience to what Thou dost will and command.

We pray that the strifes and divisions which exist among the nations of the earth may soon come to an end and they shall be united in the bonds of a strong and abiding fellowship.

Hear us in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

FRIDAY, JULY 4, 1952

ALMIGHTY GOD, we thank Thee for this fourth day of July, commemorating that significant and sacred event and time in the annals of our American history when the founding fathers signed the Declaration of Independence in which they had stated in verbal form their inner faith and deepest convictions.

Grant that on this anniversary of the birthday of our Nation we also, as members of their succeeding generations, may be inspired with a resurgence of faith in Thee and with a more patriotic and loyal devotion to those ideals and principles of freedom and democracy for which many of our fellow citizens are now giving themselves so sacrificially.

May the blessings of Thy grace and favor, Thy wisdom and power, continue to rest upon our beloved country as the pursuer for God-ordained onward and upward course in all things that make for justice and righteousness, for peace and brotherhood.

May glory and majesty, dominion and power, through Christ Jesus, our Lord, be thine for ever and ever. Amen.

(*The Fourth of July Prayer Offered by the Chaplain of the United States House of Representatives Sent Out to the Whole World Over the Voice of America*)

O THOU SUPREME RULER OF THE UNIVERSE, who were the gracious and beneficent God of our fathers and their succeeding generations, we thank Thee for this great day in the history of our Republic, commemorating

the one hundred and seventy-sixth anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

We pray that, as we read and ponder the meaning of that immortal document, we may be inspired to be more closely united with all the members of the human family in a sincere longing for a declaration of international interdependence for we need one another and none can ever find or enjoy the blessings of life alone.

Grant that the minds and hearts of men and nations everywhere may be impervious to all thoughts of personal aggrandizement and may they be purged and delivered from every self-seeking ambition and propensity.

Show us how we may be partners in releasing the hidden splendor of suffering and struggling humanity and in emancipating it from everything that dwarfs and deadens those high and holy instincts with which we have been created and endowed. Inspire us with a passion to lead mankind out of the bondage of hatred, selfishness, prejudice, suspicion, and fear into the radiant light of that new day when all our capacities for a nobler and more abundant life shall be brought to fulfillment and fruition.

May we do all within our power to hasten the dawning of that glorious day, more wonderful than our fondest hopes and dreams, when men and nations shall never again submit their disputes and disagreements to the dreadful arbitrament of war but to the high court of reason and righteousness.

Humbly and penitently we are praying for the time when mankind shall have a clearer vision and understanding of the utter futility and waste and insanity of war for war is hell and the brutal destruction of human life and property and we cannot give it any other reading or interpretation.

We beseech Thee that in our longings and labors for world peace we may make a more daring trial of those moral and spiritual values and principles which Thou hast ordained. Show us how we may courageously use and implement them in the building of a finer social order and a nobler civilization.

Hear our prayer in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

SATURDAY, JULY 5, 1952

O THOU INFINITE AND ETERNAL GOD, the coming in and the going out of all our days are in the keeping and control of Thy kind and beneficent providence.

Hitherto our lives have been abundantly blessed and Thou hast not withheld from us anything that was needful.

Grant that, as the hour of adjournment draws nigh, we may lift our hearts in thanksgiving for the high and holy privilege of walking and working together in the service of our God, our country, and humanity.

We humbly confess that we are conscious of many failures; we have often been recreant to our duties and responsibilities; we have been unfaithful to the sacred vows of our high office. Wilt Thou now give us the grace of repentance and amendment and the joys of Thy pardoning grace.

We pray that Thou wilt bestow the benediction of Thy peace upon our President, our Speaker, the chosen Representatives of our Republic, and all who have served our Nation during this session of Congress in whatever capacity. We leave this Chamber commending and committing one another to Thy love and care.

May the Lord bless us and keep us; may the Lord make His face to shine upon us and be gracious unto us; may the Lord lift upon us the light of His countenance and give us peace.

Amen.

MONDAY, JULY 7, 1952

O THOU GREAT GOD OF ALL OUR YEARS, whose blessings cannot be numbered and whose treasury of goodness is inexhaustible, may our minds and hearts always go out to Thee with feelings of adoration and gratitude for day by day Thou hast provided for our many needs.

Grant that when we come to the close of this session of the Congress we may all be worthy of receiving the diadem of Thy praise and the benediction of Thy love and grace. "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

Now unto Him who is able to keep us from falling into the forbidden ways of unrighteousness and sin and to present us faultless before the presence of Thy glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God, our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever.

Amen.

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